

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

No. 170.—VOL. IV.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1844.

PRICE 6d.

CONTENTS.	
ECCLIASTICAL:—	The Duty of Government
The Responsibility of	in relation to Slave
Success	Produce
General Assemblies of	Ground Bait for Silly
the State Church and	Electors
the Free Church of	METROPOLITAN
Scotland	The National Tempe-
United Secession and	rance Society, &c.
Relief Synods	PROVINCIAL
The Bomford Church-	South Lancashire Elec-
rate Case	tion
CORRESPONDENCE	IRELAND
IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT:—	SCOTLAND:—
The Navy—Customs Du-	Kilmarnock Burghs
ties—The Factories bill	Election
—The Bank Charter—	LITERATURE:—
Miscellaneous	Ancient Christianity,
COMPLETE SUFFRAGE	continued—Poems, by
FOREIGN NEWS:—	J. R. Lowell
American Affairs—France	MARRIAGES AND DEATHS ..
—Italy—Miscellaneous ..	TRADE AND COMMERCE ..
POSTSCRIPT	ADVERTISEMENTS
POLITICAL ARTICLES:—	
Summary	

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SUCCESS.

IN the present sphere of human thought and action, that joy is to be regarded with some suspicion which is not mixed with trembling. The intelligent mind can discover no permanent resting-place among the things of time. With a flush of satisfaction, indeed, it may alight for a moment upon some far-off peak, towards which it has long been soaring—but its stay may be hardly long enough to allow of its folding its wings, much less, of its building for itself a nest wherein to repose. Outstretched before it lies the mountainous region of duty, summit rising above summit in dim perspective—and at each stage of its adventurous flight, its eye may discern more distinctly than when it set out, higher and still higher ranges of obligation, to attain which will task its utmost energies. The ever deepening consciousness of what remains to be done, will qualify joy at what is already done. The larger responsibility which comes with success will, in a heart rightly constituted, speedily cool down the first fever of pleasurable excitement. Our appointed lot on earth is still to be doing—and the more completely our plans are found to prosper, the more imperatively are we forbidden to content ourselves with our present triumphs.

Practical success is germinant of fresh duties—otherwise, it is no success at all. There is, or ought to be, a constant alternation, in our history, between the one and the other—a pomegranate and a bell; and if ever we arrive at a point where no link between them can be discovered, we may conclude, with moral certainty, that we have missed our way. Like the traveler who, when arrived at a spot beyond which no footway can be seen, even after the most careful searching, suspects danger, is convinced that he has mistaken his path, and retraces his weary steps to the point whence he deviated from the beaten road—so he who, in the pursuit of some great moral enterprise, reaches an elevation from which there appears to be no onward track of responsibility and of labour, may well be apprehensive of having wandered from his way—he may not see it, but, without seeing, he may conclude that some yawning abyss is before him; and it becomes him to hurry back to the first known spot, whence he may descry a clear path of duty.

The Conference, which once presented itself, even to sanguine temperaments, as an unattainable point—a thing of which fancy might dream, but hope could hardly anticipate—an achievement about which our wishes might hover, but upon which our expectations could never, in reason, settle—the Conference has been holden. We dreamed; and the dream has become a reality, and the floating vision of a fond imagination has actually been surpassed by the fact. We could not but rejoice. Want of gladness would have argued want of gratitude. No member of that assembly, whose heart as well as his person was there, can have failed to drink deep draughts of joy at its strange and unparalleled success. But here ends not his connexion with it, or rather with the great object it was convened to promote. The "three days," upon which so many will look back

with pleasant recollection, were but the opening of a new era of labour and self-sacrifice. We have attended a solemn ceremonial only, at which we have, one and all, taken the oath of perpetual service. It was an impressive commencement of a magnificent enterprise, but it was only a commencement. The uniform we have assumed, the stately pomp of our first parade, the colours we uplifted to the breeze, have yet to undergo the wear and tear of action. We have done nothing yet—we have but resolved to do. We have taken a pledge of inviolable fidelity to the cause of the church's freedom; and now, woe be unto us if we desert our post.

Reflections of this cast have, we cannot doubt, occupied the minds, and appealed to the consciences, of the greater proportion of the representatives who attended the late Conference. With greater delight than we can express, we observed that a prominent characteristic of that assembly was impatience for action. That feeling we may fairly assume to have been enhanced rather than weakened by the subsequent interval. We conceive that we do not mistake in supposing that each of the delegates has returned to his own locality, filled with anxiety to take advantage of the passing moment of success, and to turn the late victory to practical account. We can imagine them surveying with minute care their respective positions—forecasting, but without dismay, the special difficulties to be overmastered—devising, with laudable ingenuity, expedients adapted to meet the exigencies of their several neighbourhoods—and clearing the ground for the erection of a permanent machinery after the model of that constructed by the Conference. There is much preparatory work to be done before large and combined public measures can be plied with effect. The present is the right time to do it—and the delegates are, in most cases, the fitting men. There are also noiseless methods of letting in light upon surrounding opinion, of which sagacity will not fail to avail itself. We shall not now enlarge upon these. Our immediate object, this week, is merely to strike in with what we suppose to be a prevailing tone of mind. We shall not, however, lose sight of the point; and if, in our anxiety to serve the cause, we should devote a series of articles to the consideration of the practical measures which may be advantageously resorted to by individuals interested in the object of "The British Anti-state-church Association," we trust our suggestions will not be taken as proofs of a dictatorial spirit, but simply as a gratuitous contribution to a common fund, which each is at liberty to use, or to leave untouched, as his own conscientious judgment may determine.

GENERAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE STATE-CHURCH AND THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

(From a Correspondent.)

Edinburgh, May 16, 1844.

THE STATE CHURCH.

Constantine is here again. He is seen in regal dignity, as his steeds prance up the High street, followed by the glittering mace, and all the "pomp and pride of state." "My kingdom is not of this world," said the divine Founder of the Christian religion, "else would my servants fight." Those men now moving in procession, some in black and some in red coats, therefore cannot appertain to that kingdom, for they are mostly all fighting men. They are charged with deadly weapons; they draw their swords by system, and look terrible.

Who is that hard, sharp-featured, tawny-looking man, who leans aback, thoughtful-like, in the third carriage, gaily trapped in gilt and ermine?—the city arms bedeck the panels, and halbert men are of the cortège. That is Provost Black—an estimable member of the body politic, and a deacon in an independent church. *Ichabod!*

Here comes the royal commissioner, the Marquis of Bute. He feels at home in pageantry; it is his order. He enters the High church, preceded by the crown, and seats himself in the royal pew. There, too, is Provost Black, but we can't see his evangelical dissent for glitter.

Principal Macfarlane preaches. The sermon is icy cold, but the temperature is ninety in the shade, and the people need something to cool their

feverishness. Paul is the theme of the discourse. "He was the devoted friend of the state, and, as a necessary consequence, was warmly attached to the followers of the Lord Jesus Christ," says the preacher. The corollary is obvious. The state church is Paul's church, and Paul's church is the state church of Scotland. Such was Dr Chalmers's logic last year. Principal Macfarlane is not so likely to see beyond it to-day.

NEW ASSEMBLY HALL.

"This is a cold magnificent place, without any comfort or convenience," observes a neighbour, who takes his seat beside us, in the New Assembly hall, where we have adjourned, and where the court is constituted.

A cold place. Yes; frigidly cold, mentally and morally. The frigidness of the law, and not the lifeful elasticity of the gospel is here.

Magnificent place. 'Tis truly so, architecturally. Had John Knox been here to-day, his wrath would have kindled on looking at that gorgeous crown and canopy which surmount the royal commissioner, and fiery indignation would have burst forth on turning round to the cathedral and Romish-like aspect of the other end. But we forget; John Knox would be a free kirk man, and, as such, he would not have to complain for want of sombre taste amongst his brethren, in choosing designs for their new kirks. Luther's timber tabernacle at Wittemberg is their model.

"Without comfort or convenience." These are seldom conjoined with magnificence. Nature is simple, and is

"—Like woman, unadorned
Adorned the most."

The greatest inconvenience felt to-day is to have a shilling to pay for standing room in a gallery. A state kirk has no conscience, and hence she first puts her hand into the public purse, and by act of parliament robs it of six thousand pounds to build a hall, and then politely asks for a shilling to see it! There is no use remonstrating with her against this, or other malpractices, for should one dare to obtrude beyond the prescribed precincts, the civil magistrate, whose brow frowns over the castle wall just above, is called in to exercise the "power of the sword." In this respect the new hall is conveniently situated.

But to business; the Moderator speaks and proposes as his successor a gentleman "acquainted beyond most men with the history, antiquities, and constitution of the church." Agreed, say the assembly, and a care-worn, somewhat querulous-looking person, turned fifty at least, takes the chair. His finely-expanded and well-rounded head turns on his shoulders as if it were moved by machinery in a socket bored out of blue whinstone. That is Principal Lee—head of the University of Edinburgh, and perhaps the best linguist of the present day. He is a kind-hearted good man, but full of fickleness and much given to change. His "individuality," as Combe would say, is deficient.

The Queen's letter is read—"Right reverend and well-beloved, we greet you well," runs the first sentence; "the church of Scotland shall have our undiminished protection," is the second. These words never spake Queen Victoria in sober seriousness, but they fitly flow from the sycophantic secretary Graham. Practically they have been stereotyped in unmeaningness, and nobody of sense reads them.

The commissioner presents the usual grant of £2000, "to promote the Christian religion, and the principles of the reformed religion," in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. Why this distinction? Is the Christian religion one thing, and the principles of the reformed religion another? Does the distinction mean moderation and free-kirkism. Dr Chalmers should look after this, and if he be vigilant he may get a slice of the £2,000 for his Highland students.

Thus ends the first day's work in the hall. Crowds now flock to feast at the palace.

Friday, May 17th.

Devotional exercises. "We have been in the furnace of affliction. We have come out purified; and thanks—eternal thanks—be to God, for he has wrought for us a great deliverance." Thus prayed one. "Spare the church for the elect's sake." Thus prayed another. Strange sentimentalism! It grates on the ear, and constitutes curious devotion. It is not prayer. For

"Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,
Uttered or unexpressed,
The motion of a hidden fire,
That trembles in the breast."

EVENING.

The assembly is again feasting at the palace.

Saturday, May 18th.

An unpopular minister who preached his church empty, was one Sunday morning lolling on his sofa, when his good lady, who had been standing at the window, went up to him, and said, "I see all the people going to the new kirk." "Do you see any

of them carrying the stipend with them?" asked the stipendiary. The free kirk, it seems, has taken away the congregations of 74 churches in the Highlands—that is now subject of great complaint here; but there is evidently consolation derived from the fact that none of them have carried the stipend. Something, however, is to be done to fill the void, but what that something is, does not yet appear.

The law committee report—"One hundred and forty-six cases arising out of the present position of the church have been before us since the last assembly," says the learned procurator. If the state kirk don't thrive, it won't be for want of law, however deficient may be the supply of gospel.

THE FREE CHURCH.

Thursday, May 16th.

While men, women, and children were amusing themselves with the state kirk procession, scores of well-dressed happy-looking pedestrians were seen wending their way to Canon Mills, intent on something. They are going to the free kirk assembly. There, too, a sermon was preached, and it had unction in it. There, too, was a moderator, but no royal commissioners. There again were gowns, bands, and lawn sleeves, and other insignia of priestcraft, but the popery of protestantism did not stand forth in legal garb, and nobody seemed frightened at it. The old hall, famous as the scene of the first meeting just twelve months ago, was again crowded, but the feverish excitement of May 1843 was gone in May 1844. The pulse now beats more regularly, and though there are crementary materials yet in the system, they occasion but fitful eruptions, and ere long disappear.

Four thousand persons have met here this day; they are hushed to a dead and anxious silence as a fine heavenly-minded man rises in the chair to address the court. He articulates gravely, pleasingly, and with graceful freedom. His thin grey hairs beset his lofty forehead, while his keen sharp eyeballs float in a sea of benevolent feeling. Who is he? That is Dr Thomas Brown, the moderator. He opens the business, and infuses his own spirit into the hearts of all.

Dr Watts, on being twitted one day by a lady on his diminutive appearance, drew himself smartly up, and pacing dignifiedly across the room, extemporised—

"Could I in stature reach the pole,
And grasp creation in my span,
I'd still be measured by my soul,
The mind's the standard of the man."

Had that little man, who has just risen amid the applause of this meeting, been the subject of similar remark from any of his fair friends, he might have adopted the Dr's stanzas with propriety. He speaks to a point of form, but involving a serious question of principle—*ex officio* members are objected to. The force of the objection is at once admitted, but the little man defends it on grounds of expediency; and he hoped that the subject of the representation of the church would now be remitted to a committee. Thus spoke Dr Candlish, whose "bodily presence is weak," but whose "speech is powerful." He touched a subject, too—of which more anon.

The new Moderator takes the chair. He looks, with bands and gown, priestly enough. He is finical in all his movements, and affected in manner. He is what is called a "ladies' man;" and yet a friend, who sits near us, and knows him well, says these mannerisms are his misfortune, not his fault. He has got an elegantly-cultivated mind, and possesses the faculty of clothing all his ideas in most alluring and attractive language. Moreover, if there be any truth in the doctrine laid down by phrenologists, "the more brains, the more wisdom," the Rev. Henry Grey is not overwise; for one might almost put his whole head in a nut-shell.

He speaks to the purpose. Warned by the slip which Dr Chalmers, in the frenzy of the moment, made last year, Mr Grey goes cautiously to work, balancing his sentiments skilfully, and rounding his periods to perfection. Something of the old leaven, nevertheless, is still working. "We are Scotland's true ministers," says Mr Grey, "without disparagement to any." This is the logic of pride. It is the besetting sin of the Free church, and rules down to the hewer of wood and the drawer of water. Dr Chalmers should preach to the assembly, before it adjourns, from these words:—"A haughty spirit goeth before a fall."

Friday, May 17th.

Christianity is expansive. It needs no help but from itself. Wrap it in state swaddlings, and its growth is stunted—freedom is the atmosphere in which it thrives. So it has been in the Free kirk. Thrown on their own resources, the free presbyterians have devised liberal things for the cause of God. They have done well. Look at their contributions for the advancement of Christian missions and education:—

For education	£4,942	19	2
For the Indian mission....	13,432	18	8
For the home mission	2,987	2	7
For the colonial mission ..	3,619	1	7
For the Jewish mission ..	4,548	18	6
For special purposes	2,259	12	7
	31,790	13	24

This money has been raised by seven hundred and sixty-six congregations. The "Ladies' Association," it seems, has done much to aid the funds. Surely, then, Drs Chalmers and McFarlane, you cannot be so cruel as to withhold from the ladies the elective franchise, under your new kirk constitution. Truth to say, had it not been for the ladies free presbyterianism would have been as poor as a kirk mouse.

Friday evening.

One Sunday, while a tract distributor was going his round, the passage door of a spirit shop, the front of which was to the main street, was accidentally broken down. The scene disclosed was heinous indeed. A dozen of men and women were sitting round a table drinking, smoking, cursing, and swearing, and yet though he had passed that way for seven years daily, nothing had been seen or heard to offend the eye or grieve the heart. Why? Because the window shutters had been put on, and the front doors locked on Sundays, "by act of parliament." Had the sanctification of the Sabbath been left to the agency of Christian principle and the instrumentality of Christian means, such a scene could not have withstood its influence for one month. But it was not so, and the day was desecrated under cover of law. Sabbath desecration is a fruitful topic of discussion here to-night. But force, not persuasion, is the rule of redress. No speaker quotes the text—"One man esteemeth one day above another; another man esteemeth every day alike." Nor has any attempted to show how the "Sabbath was made for man," and not man for the Sabbath. Right views of these passages would lead to the conclusion that neither the free assembly, nor any other assembly, has any right to legislate for another man's conscience.

Saturday, May 10th.

The Free kirk is not yet free. She is in bondage to her own lusts; and much self-denial will be required before she can mortify her pride of life. "Like a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke," she was restive under state control; now, that she has broke loose, she runs wildly at times, kicking and rearing at every little thing which prickles. Let her kick on—give her room enough, and she will sober herself down by and by.

At Friday's meeting of the Assembly, Dr Wilson of Bombay, in expressing his gratitude as a missionary for the liberality they had shown in the cause of missions, said—

The motive which had dictated his adherence, and that of those with whom he was associated, was that the principle of state interference with religion had been repudiated by the Free church. They felt that they could not hold up their heads in India if they still kept connexion with a church that tolerated state interference; for throughout that vast continent, with all the diversities of its priesthood, the idea of such a thing was never entertained; and he believed if the British authorities were to attempt to interfere with the native religions, it would be a death-blow to their authority. How, then, could they refrain from saying that the blood-bought privileges of the church of their fathers ought to remain untrammelled by state influence?

UNITED SECESSION AND RELIEF SYNODS.

In consequence of the pressure of our ecclesiastical news, we can give but a concise summary of the proceedings of these bodies during the past week.

At the Tuesday's sitting of the United Secession Synod, the great topic of discussion was the subject of the atonement, which was re-opened by the presentation of a memorial and remonstrance from Mr Balfour, an aged minister, complaining of the decision of the synod in the cases of Drs Brown and Balmer, the two senior theological tutors of their church, denouncing in the strongest terms the views entertained by these two professors on the subject of the atonement, as put forth in their published speeches, and calling upon the court to rescind its former decision. The discussion on this matter occupied much time. Drs Young, Marshall, Baird, Harper, Heugh, Balmer, and other ministers, spoke on the subject. On Tuesday evening the following resolution, proposed by Mr Brown, was carried by 79 against 75:—

"That the synod grant as much of the prayer of the memorialist as respects the entering of his dissent from the decision complained of, but see no reason for disturbing that decision. Inasmuch, however, as there is reason to fear that the meaning of the decision has been misapprehended, the synod think it proper to say that it was not intended as an alteration of the standards of our church, but rather as a declaration of the existence of harmony in regard to the system of divine truth which these standards contain."

On Wednesday the matter came on in another form. Dr Balmer requested leave to make a few observations on a subject in which he and Dr Brown felt interested. He referred to certain imputations which he conceived were cast upon him and Dr Brown, in the appendix to a book recently published by Dr Marshall. He thought the matter should be taken up by the synod. Dr Harper concurred in the suggestion, and thought that the synod should appoint a committee to consider the allegations brought forward against their professors, and that they should bring forward to the synod such a proposal as should be found necessary for vindicating the professors from those injurious allegations. He should also propose that Dr Marshall and the professors should meet with that committee, and he trusted that the result would be not only favourable to their professors, but would restore a good understanding among the parties themselves—parties whom they all honoured and loved. He moved a resolution to that effect, which, after much discussion, was eventually carried. At the evening sitting, Dr Marshall proposed that a committee should be appointed to ascertain if the publications of Drs Brown and Balmer, under dispute, were in accordance with the standards of the court. Eventually one committee was appointed to go into, and report upon, the whole subject.

On Thursday the subject of missions came under review, when Mr Cairns, of Paisley, submitted a plan by which the 400 congregations of the Secession church might raise annually £10,440, and if

the subscriptions were continued for five years, £52,102 11s. At the evening sitting, the following report of the committee, appointed to confer regarding certain strictures contained in the appendix to Dr Marshall's recent publications, was read and sustained by the synod:—

"That Dr Marshall did not mean to insinuate that the two professors, or any other of the parties referred to in the concluding pages of his book, taught what they did not believe to be true, or that they taught what they did not believe to be in accordance with the standards of the church; and further spontaneously intimated his purpose to suppress the appendix altogether: whereupon the two senior professors expressed their satisfaction with the statement of Dr Marshall, disclaiming any intention of ascribing moral blame to them, and took the opportunity to add that, in their own apprehension, no language ever used by them countenanced any religious error, and in particular that the expressions, "opening the door of mercy to all, removing legal and external barriers to salvation and the atonement, having a general as well as a special reference," are not understood by them to mean "that the atonement, in the order of nature, precedes election, or that it opens for all a way to salvation without securing the salvation of any, and that then sovereign love comes in to complete the arrangement by ordaining the elect to life."

In these declarations of Dr Marshall on the one hand, and of the two professors on the other, the committee cordially acquiesced as a satisfactory termination of the matter remitted to them, and agreed to report to the synod. The other business of the synod was of a routine character. The court was adjourned until May, 1845.

The subject of most general interest on which the Relief Synod were engaged was an overture from the Glasgow presbytery, recommending them to petition the legislature in favour of an amended poor-law system for Scotland. After some discussion, the overture was unanimously adopted, and we hope will not be lost on the legislature. On Friday the business of the synod was wound up in a summary manner. Dr Struthers presented a series of resolutions as the report of a committee on the state of religion in this country. The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and directed to be printed and sent to all members of synod, to be read from their pulpits, and also to be inserted in the public journals. The synod was occupied for some time in considering the liquidation of debt scheme. The result was, that they agreed to make a simultaneous movement for raising funds in the churches of the synod; to appoint a week during which the members of each congregation shall be waited upon for private subscription; to direct a public collection to be made in each congregation on the sabbath thereafter; and to request the ministers to do all that they can to prepare their people by pulpit addresses for entering cordially and prosecuting successfully this work, so important to this denomination and the extension of the gospel. The second week of July was appointed for collecting subscriptions, and directions were given that no private arrangements or matters of convenience be allowed to interfere with it. The arranging of some details connected with this matter closed the business of the synod.

One topic of importance that engaged the two synods was a proposal for union. The United Secession Synod passed a resolution in favour of it, which was followed by resolutions of a similar character from the Relief Synod. On Thursday a deputation from the former visited the Relief Synod, and various addresses were delivered in favour of the project. It is probable, therefore, that before long these two bodies will be merged into one.

THE ROMFORD CHURCH-RATE CASE.

The long pending case of Piggott v. Bearblock and Newman came on before the judicial committee of the Privy Council, on Thursday last, when judgment was given in favour of the plaintiff. The facts of the case are briefly as follows. Mr Piggott, who is a poor shoemaker, in Romford, was proceeded against in the Arches Court, by the churchwardens of that parish, for the recovery of two church-rates of 3s. 4d. and 6s., due in 1839 and 1840. Mr Piggott was singled out of a list of recusants to taste the tender mercies of the "Courts Christian." He applied to be permitted to defend himself *in forma pauperis*, but this application was rejected by Sir H. Jenner Fust. Piggott then defended himself personally; but Sir H. Jenner Fust ultimately decided against him, condemning him in the payment of the two rates with costs. From this decision Piggott prosecuted the present appeal, also in person, but at the hearing was assisted by Mr Roebuck and Mr Mellor, of the common law bar, against Dr Adams, who defended the judgment of Sir H. Jenner Fust.

Mr ROEBUCK contended that it was incumbent upon the churchwardens to prove every averment in their libel as necessary to show the liability of the party charged, and that they had failed to do this on the following grounds:—1st, they had not shown that Romford was in the parish of Hornchurch. 2dly, it was not proved that any sufficient notice, as is required by the acts 58 Geo. III., cap. 69, and 1 Victoria, cap. 45, of the meeting for making the rate, had been affixed on the doors of Romford and Havering chapels, as well as on the church doors; and 3dly, the rates were retrospective, and therefore illegal, it appearing by the churchwardens' accounts, which were in evidence in the cause, that payments were made out of them towards reimbursing Mr Bearblock sums borrowed of him in 1832, for expenses incurred in 1826, for the then repairs and expenses of the church.

Mr MELLOR, on the same side, urged that the court was bound to take judicial notice of the act recognising Romford as a separate parish, even though it might not have been specially pleaded in the court below.

Dr ADAMS argued at some length in favour of the churchwardens, combating the arguments of the plaintiff's counsel.

Lord BROUGHAM delivered the judgment of the court. He said all the points raised by the counsel for the appellants were exceedingly proper to be urged, and had been so without any unnecessary occupation of the time of the court. It was not, however, essential that the court should decide upon the questions as to the liability of the inhabitants of Romford, as parishioners of Hornchurch, or the due publication of the notices, having no option but to reverse the decision of the court below upon the more material ground, that the payment out of the rates of money previously borrowed, or expended, was illegal, and would vitiate those rates. An illegal payment of an amount, however small, would have that effect. In Hampden's celebrated case the illegal amount was but a few shillings; but, even take the accounts as you would, the sums objected to constituted a sixth of the whole rates. The case of "The Queen v. Dursley" was conclusive; for if the *mandamus* had been granted it would have been equivalent to a declaration that the rate in question would be good; but the *mandamus* having been refused, the conclusion was equally clear that the rate would be bad. The court in that case did not make or lay down any new law, but only declared the law as it existed before the statute, that if retrospective the rate was bad. Upon this ground, therefore, their lordships had come to the conclusion that they had no option but to reverse the judgment appealed from, including, of course, that part of it which condemned Mr Pigott in the payment of the costs in the court below; but as he had defended himself, and therefore incurred but trifling expenses on his own account, their lordships, under the circumstances, had not thought it necessary to make any award of costs to him.

Judgment of the court below reversed, but no costs given on either side.

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURES AT HARPENDEN, HERTS.—Another of those disgraceful exhibitions, which are daily hastening the downfall of all establishments of religion, took place at Harpenden, on Monday, the 13th instant, when the constable and broker entered the dwelling of Mr Henry Davis, independent minister, and, for a church rate of 2s. 0½d., took away property worth 12s.; from Mr William Walker, plait merchant, for a rate of 7s. 6d., they seized household furniture valued at £1 1s.; and from Mr Curtis, maltster, they carried off malt worth £1 4s., for a rate of 18s. 9d.!

THE AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY AND THE FREE CHURCH.—In the *New York Commercial Advertiser* is a letter addressed by the executive committee of the American and Anti-slavery Society to the commissioners of the Free church of Scotland, who are now soliciting contributions in the United States, on the subject of receiving money from slaveholders. The letter is written with great force and eloquence, but is far too long to transfer to our columns. We hope that the powerful appeals which the letter contains may not be in vain. The following are one or two extracts:—

It is, therefore, with astonishment and grief that we have learned that you have commenced a tour through the slave states of this union, with a view to solicit funds as well of slaveholders as of other persons. Doubtless you will be warmly greeted by the people, and especially by that portion who hold their fellow-men and fellow-Christians in bondage. While they proffer you their sympathy and money, you will be invited to occupy the pulpits of the ministers, and the kindest attentions will be lavished upon you. But it will be only while you seal your lips against any condemnation of slaveholding, and preach the gospel according to the usages of southern ministers, and the restrictions of the slaveholding members of their churches, that your preaching will be listened to with approbation, or even tolerated.

Will you now, as you are eye-witnesses of the iniquitous system that filled you with such disgust and abhorrence at a distance, make common cause with that Christianity?—clasp hands with its defenders, and accept their blood-stained offerings? The fiend can well afford, we know, to pay you tens of thousands, for he knows that your countenance is worth millions to him. If he can purchase the silence of the successors of John Knox and Andrew Thomson—if he can number them among his allies, he may well think his victory complete.

It is possible that you may allege, in the language of the American board of commissioners for foreign missions, when they receive, nay, solicit, the donations of slaveholders, and number among their members those who hold their fellow men in slavery, that "you sustain no relation to the system that implies approbation." Let us briefly examine this. In 1832, Ann Pray, of Georgia, left a legacy to the A. B. C. F. M., of one-fourth of certain negro slaves. The board declined the bequest: why, unless they thought it wrong to own such chattels? Suppose, instead of leaving the slaves, the testatrix had bequeathed their value in silver dollars, directing the bones, and muscles, and immortal minds to be brought to the hammer, and one fourth of the proceeds to be handed over in the shape of a cheque on a bank, would the board have declined the offer? If not—if they would have received the cash, why turn from the human flesh? If they would have sent the money back, why solicit the money of slave dealers? Is it not well known that slaves are continually bought and sold at the south; that professors of religion of all denominations—ministers of the gospel, even—traffic in human flesh?

Now we know that, if you, the commissioners of the Free church of Scotland, solicit gold of southern slaveholders to build up your cause, you will weaken our hands, strengthen incalculably the prejudices which are the bane of the coloured man, soothe the south in her mad career, deaden still more the already portentous apathy of the north, and disappoint the friends of human rights and of a pure gospel throughout the world. If

you obtain the slaveholders' money, if the Free church of Scotland accept it, it is certain that you will look with more tolerance than you would otherwise do on the great iniquity of slavery; the lips of your church will be sealed; no more remonstrances will be sent over from your land to the slaveholding ministers, elders, deacons, and private members of the American churches; and an alliance of sympathy and interest will be established between the Scottish church and the slave-ocracy of this union. That tolerance, that sympathy, that alliance, will be the beginning of mischief. Who but God can trace its course and close?

What will the enemies of the Free church—the state hireling—say, if you carry home the slaveholders' bounty? Will they not taunt you thus: These are the men who could not swallow the bread of their sovereign as the price of their submission to tyranny, but their consciences, honour, and Christian principle did not revolt in begging a pittance from the pulpits of tyrannical oppression, in Washington, Charlestown, and New Orleans? What O'Connell refused to touch when brought to his hand, Dr Chalmers sent, and Drs Cunningham and Burns went, 4,000 miles to solicit!

Should you, despite of our friendly warning and urgent Christian remonstrance, solicit money acquired by the sale of American Christians, and men made heathen by the cruel system of slavery, we can only express our firm confidence that your constituents, the Free church of Scotland, will refuse to receive the polluted silver and gold, and return it to those who gave it.

ARTHUR TAPPAN, LEONARD GIBBS,
SIMON S. JOCELYN, LEWIS TAPPAN,
CHRISTOPHER RUSH, THEODORE J. WRIGHT,
WILLIAM SHOTWELL, SETH W. BENEDICT,
Executive committee of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society.

THE POOR MAN'S CHURCH.—A labourer at the gas factory, named Alexander Creighton, with a wife and eight children, has just been summoned for the non-payment of one and sixpence for a church rate, and obliged to pay it, together with the cost of the summons, &c. The case has excited considerable sensation in the neighbourhood. What makes the case harder is, that the poor fellow met with a serious accident some time since, and was unable to earn anything for his family for a number of weeks. His family, too, are all very young, only two out of the eight being able to earn their maintenance.—*Bath Journal*.

THE WORKHOUSE CHAPLAINCY QUESTION.—We learn from the *Cheltenham Free Press*, that at the meeting of the board of guardians for that parish, on Thursday, the following resolution was proposed:—"That Christian ministers of all denominations be allowed to perform service any evening in the summer after seven o'clock, and half-past six in the winter, in the chapel of the workhouse." The proposition was supported by Mr Belcher, Mr Hollis, and Captain St Clair, and found only one or two opponents. On being put from the chair, it was carried without a dissentient; several gentlemen, however, declining to vote.

MR MACMULLEN AND DR HAMPDEN.—A correspondent of the *Times* says, that "in congregation on Wednesday, the vice-chancellor put his absolute veto upon Mr Macmullen's degree. The ground upon which he does this is, that the Regius professor has informed him that Mr Macmullen has not performed his exercises. The vice-chancellor, upon this information of the professor, professes to doubt the fact whether the exercises which Mr Macmullen performed in open day in the schools, in the presence of the university, and in the way in which all such exercises are performed, were actually so performed. The ground upon which the Regius professor avowedly goes, on the other hand, is not any deficiency whatever as to the fact of the performance of the exercises; the Regius professor cannot deny that the exercises have, as a matter of fact, been performed; he objects simply to a certain doctrine contained in one of them. It is upon a doctrinal objection simply and solely that the vice-chancellor vetoes Mr Macmullen's degree."

JAMAICA PARLIAMENT.—On Thursday, the 22nd February, a lengthened discussion took place, upon the presentation of a petition by Mr Smith, from the Jamaica Missionary Presbytery, on behalf of themselves and their congregations, agreed to at a public meeting held at Port Maria, upon the subject of church and state. The first clause of the petition, the honourable member who presented it said, complained of the public taxes being appropriated to purposes the petitioners did not approve of; and the second clause, that the church establishment should be abolished. The petition was withdrawn, in consequence of the speaker's declaring it could not be received. We trust that the voluntaries will be prepared to pour in their petitions at an earlier period of the session on the next occasion; and, to prevent any petitions being considered of a private nature, we would recommend that congregational petitions be adopted, so that all who are willing to sign them, may have an opportunity of doing so. Voluntaries must be awake; they must enlighten the community at large, upon the subject they advocate, as compulsion is already shifting their ground in voting away money for religious purposes; one honourable member giving notice in the House of Assembly—Mr Guy—that early in the next session, he should move that the sum of £5000 annually be placed at the disposal of the bishop for church purposes.—*Baptist Herald*.

THE KIRK AND THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—We rejoice in informing our readers, and those friends who believe that the state has no right to intrude upon the church of Christ, that the House of Assembly has refused to give any grant, either to the presbyterians in this town, or to those at Montego Bay. Our matter of rejoicing is not that their supplies are cut off, but they must now seek support from the

legitimate and scriptural channel—from the voluntary principle; and the sooner the members of that communion enter upon plans to provide for themselves, the more independent and the more useful they will be.—*Ibid*.

THE EVANGELICAL PARTY IN THE ESTABLISHMENT.—A pamphlet has lately been published by the Hon. ourable Baptist Noel, entitled "The Case of the Free Church," in which after justifying the course that body has pursued, he proceeds to apply the case to the church of England. It may be asked, he says, whether, if their principles are sound, and their conduct in leaving the Scotch establishment merits our praise, those who espouse their principles and admire their conduct ought not to leave the English establishment? Were the circumstances similar, Mr Noel answers, "No doubt they ought;" but the circumstances, he says, are widely different. The neglect of the church of England to achieve the two great principles of non-intrusion and spiritual independence he looks upon as a fault much to be deplored, yet so long as they are permitted to maintain all truth, and to fulfil all duty, he thinks it is incumbent on the evangelical ministers to seek its improvement, not to desert its service. On these accounts, he looked upon the recent propositions, which have been anonymously made, to form a free episcopal church in this country, as hasty and impatient. The conduct of the ministers of the free church gives a safer course, teaching the evangelical members of the church of England to be neither frightened into silence by menaces, nor exasperated into bitterness by imputations, but to be united, and never to quit the establishment till they are forced by the clearest necessity.

THE MARRIAGE BILL.—We understand that a bill on this subject has been prepared, with the approbation of the members of the deputation, and is now under consideration of the government.—*Banner of Ulster*.

Correspondence.

THE ROMFORD CHURCH RATE CASE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—Allow me shortly state a few facts relative to the church rate case of Bearblock v. Piggott, which the judicial committee of the privy council has unanimously decided in favour of Piggott, by reversing the judgment of Sir Herbert Jenner Fust, and thus establishing what has been decided in other courts, that retrospectively rating is illegal. The case was most ably argued by Mr Roebuck and Mr Mellor, on the part of the poor man Piggott, who is a shoemaker at Romford, in humble circumstances, and who was selected to be a church-rate victim in the ecclesiastical court by the church authorities of Hornchurch. Notwithstanding those talented pleaders kindly gave their services and valuable time (the points being found too abstruse for a humble shoemaker to place before the court himself), counsel would have been prevented from assisting Piggott, had not a proctor, Mr Pritchard, of Doctors' Commons, at this juncture generously drawn up a proxy for Piggott (authorising him to act as his proctor), and but for this form being complied with, Piggott would, at the last hour have been denied the chance of obtaining justice.

It is nearly three years since Piggott has been harassed with these proceedings, and much injured in his business, besides incurring court fees, expenses for journeys to attend the various movements of the Arches court, and the great expense of his share of the proceedings, and, as contrary to all precedent, both parties in this suit pay their own costs, his only chance of remuneration will be by public subscription, as in the case of John Thorogood, who went to prison for contempt of court, a public-spirited subscription was presented to him. Piggott ought to have the same public sympathy; he has passed through the Arches court, and legally defended himself up to the highest tribunal, and obtained a judgment which will for ever benefit the cause of civil and religious liberty, and but for which nothing remained for him but hopeless incarceration.

I remain, sir, your most obedient servant,

APSEY PELLATT.
Falcon Glass Works, May 20th, 1844.

MR CHRISTOPHERSON AND THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—Your paper of Wednesday last contains a paragraph, taken from the *Gateshead Observer*, in which I am reported to have preached a sermon, "attacking, in no measured terms, the Anti-state-church Conference, and those dissenters generally who are friendly to the separation of church and state." I was not concerned to meddle with this statement, while it was confined to the pages of such a journal as the *Gateshead Observer* is understood to be; but now that the *Nonconformist* has adopted the paragraph, you will, I am sure, do me the justice to insert in your next number my distinct and unequivocal affirmation, that at no time, and in no place, has any sermon been delivered by me, in which an attack, in any terms (measured or not measured), was made "on those dissenters generally who are friendly to the separation," &c. One strong reason why I am not likely to preach such a sermon, is, that the attack would come down with whatever force it might have, on my own head.

I am not less anxious to disavow those two elegant sentences, imputed to me by your own correspondent, since in no discourse with which I have ever been concerned, can I discover words or meanings that can claim any, even the smallest, resemblance to the sentences you have printed.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

H. CHRISTOPHERSON.
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, May 17th, 1844.

Since last harvest the number of wilful fires in Suffolk and the adjoining counties, amount to at least 200, and the value of property destroyed at least to £100,000.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Corn laws, against alteration of, 14.
County Courts bill, against, 8.
Dissenters' Chapels bill, against, 76.
for, 133.
Ecclesiastical courts bill, against, 3.
Factories, for limiting hours of labour, 3.
Local Courts, for establishment of, 1.
Marriages (Ireland), for declaring valid, 25.
Maynooth College, against further grant to, 1.
Poor Law Amendment act, against, 10.
Registration of Voters (Ireland) bill, against, 177.
St Asaph and Bangor dioceses, against union of, 16.
Soap, for repeal of duty on, 1.
Union with Ireland, for repeal of, 2.
Universal suffrage, for, 5.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Courts of Common Law bill.
(Ireland) bill.
Courts Martial (East Indies) bill.
Charitable Loan Societies (Ireland) bill.
Vestries in Churches bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

County Rates bill.
West India Relief bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Customs Duties bill.
Stamp Duties bill.
Turnpike Acts Continuance (Ireland) bill.
West India Relief bill.
Bank of England Charter acts.
Gold and Silver Wares bill.
Assaults (Ireland) bill.

READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

West India Relief bill.

DEBATES.

Thursday, May 16th.

STATE OF THE NAVY.

Sir C. NAPIER requested the attention of the House to the state of the navy list, with reference to the expediency of establishing a retired list for a fixed number of officers above 60 years of age. He recapitulated his own former endeavours to get such a list established, and the discouraging answers which from time to time had been given to him. Thus baffled, he thought it his duty now to press the subject once more upon the House. After 60 years of age a man was not generally fit for the command of a ship; his strength was not sufficient to go through the conduct of an action, and follow it up to its full results. At this time there were no officers above the rank of rear-admirals—and only fifteen even of that rank—who were under 60 years of age. In order to facilitate promotion, he proposed that old officers should be permitted to sell their commissions, and that officers purchasing them should be allowed to do so after a shorter term of service than might be required from officers getting promotion without purchase.

Sir R. PEEL said that in the time of the late government the whole subject had been referred to a commission, upon which were two noblemen who had been first lords of the admiralty, and three admirals. They had specially considered the proposal for a retired list; and they had reported that it would not confer any public benefit commensurate with the expense it would entail. He hoped the House would not express an opinion which should fetter the discretion of the government on this subject.

Captain BERKELEY, Captain PACHELL, Captain HARRIS, and Mr HUME, supported Sir C. Napier's motion; Sir GEORGE COCKBURN, Lord INGESTRIE, and Mr SYDNEY HERBERT opposed it.

Sir R. PEEL added some explanations on the subject of expense. The House then divided; against the motion, 71; for it, 28: majority against it, 43.

Friday, May 17th.

CUSTOMS DUTIES BILL.

On the motion for the Speaker's leaving the chair, in order that the House might go into committee on the Customs' Duties bill.

Mr LABOUCHERE complained, that in consequence of the import duty on staves, our coopers were undersold by foreign cask-makers, and some hundreds of workmen thrown out of employ:—

The cooper now paid between 30 and 70 per cent. *ad valorem* on staves imported into this country. In consequence of this heavy duty, they could not export casks, and he believed that foreigners were able to undersell the home manufacturer in the home market. This was not the result of any natural advantage on the part of foreigners. When they paid between 60 and 70 per cent. upon foreign casks, it was impossible the trade could exist under those circumstances. The consequence was, that ruin was impending on the coopers. Fifteen hundred journeymen were formerly employed in London; now 500 were not fully employed [hear, hear].

The necessary relief might be given without at all reopening the question of the timber duties. Mr GLADSTONE said, that much had lately been done for the relief of the coopers, but that he did not wish to exclude the consideration of still further measures for their relief. Lord JOHN RUSSELL contended for such a larger application of the principles of free trade to timber as the late government had sought to introduce. Mr HUME, Lord HOWICK, Mr BARING, and several other members, contended for the principle of remitting duties upon raw materials.

The Customs' Duties bill then went into committee.

The proposed schedule fixed the duty on foreign coffee at 6d. Mr EWART moved to reduce the duty on foreign coffee to the amount imposed on colonial coffee—4d.; urging the usual arguments against differential duties, for raising revenue by reducing taxation, for extending commerce in British manufac-

tures with coffee-producing countries, for the benefit to the consumer, and for the encouragement to temperance.

The increased consumption of coffee in this country was evidenced by the increase of coffee houses. In 1812 there was only one coffee house in London, and now there were 2,000 [hear]. Any measure which would increase the consumption of an article so favourable to the spread of sobriety must be beneficial to the country.

He would apply the same principle to cocoa. Mr GOULBURN answered, that the whole question of differential duties had been argued when the Tariff was before the House; and the decision could not be rescinded in respect of particular articles. Our colonies have a right to protection. And further reduction of duty would not lead to a corresponding increase of consumption, since coffee has already changed from being the luxury of the few to be the common beverage of multitudes. Mr RICARDO backed Mr HUME; Mr PHILIP HOWARD Mr GOULBURN. The motion was negatived, by 39 to 28.

The Committee, on arriving at the details of the proposed reduction on currants, got into a desultory and exceedingly merry discussion. Mr Alderman HUMPHREY wished to be informed in what consisted the distinction between dried plums and plums preserved in sugar, which are subjected to different rates of duty. Mr GOULBURN explained, that the duty on plums was meant to meet a particular fraud in importing confectionery. Sir R. PEEL said, it was no temptation to propose to reduce duties if they were to be called upon every succeeding session to defend each of the 1,200 articles upon which a change had been effected.

At the observations of his hon. friend the worthy alderman opposite he could scarcely be much surprised, for he was no doubt so encouraged by his extraordinary success in discussing last year the duties upon turbot and lobster sauce [loud laughter], that it was no matter of astonishment to find him now standing forward as the advocate and defender of the rights of the great plum pudding interest [shouts of laughter]. In discussing the first course his triumph had been so complete, that at a later period of the festivities he could be expected to do nothing less than bring the same energy, and equal knowledge, to bear upon the subject of plums and puddings.

Mr WARBURTON protested against the enhanced duty in the tariff upon apples; imputed to the influence of the member of East Kent, Sir Edward Knatchbull. Sir R. PEEL said that the enhanced duty on apples was the consequence of some pledge given by Lord Melbourne.

He could assure the hon. member that when his right hon. friend (Sir E. Knatchbull) accepted office with the present government, he made no stipulations whatever on the subject of the apple duties [loud laughter], and had entered into no compromise upon that great and important question which appeared so deeply to agitate the mind of the hon. representative for Kendal [much laughter and cheering].

Another amusing scene took place, which is thus described by the *Times*:—

"Mr BRIGHT said there was another question affecting the county of Kent besides the apple and plum question—he meant the duty upon canary seeds [shouts of laughter]. It was a minute question certainly [more laughter, and cries of "Question"]. He was speaking to the question. Canary seeds were confectionery [renewed laughter, and cries of "Question"]. Well, he would only say that peculiar care seemed to be taken of Kentish interests.

"Sir R. PEEL:—And there is another question affecting the county of Kent besides the apple, plum, or canary seed question either—I mean the duty upon hops [hear, hear, and cheering]. The reduction of the duty upon hops had affected the interests of the county of Kent to five times the extent that any other alteration had affected them [loud cheers from the ministerial benches—in the midst of which]—

"Mr HUMPHREY said:—Ay, now you see we are running away from the question [roars of laughter]. It's true I talked about the turbot and lobster duties when the tariff was on the table [renewed laughter], and now I'll go on. I've spoken of plums, and now I'll go to another question—orange peel [roars of laughter, which continued some minutes]. The duty on orange peel [pursued the worthy alderman] was 5d. a lb. in 1841, and the tariff reduced it to 1s. a cwt. Orange peel was not to be touched, and yet they were going to raise the duties on preserved plums, which were not a bit less entitled to be considered confectionery. Why was this? He was sure there was something more in it than met the eye."

Mr GLADSTONE moved a clause repealing the import-duty on foreign sheep's-wool. It was generally supported; even by Mr Darby though he protested against its being carried as a measure of "free trade"—he meant the free trade of the Opposition, a very different thing from that of the ministers. The clause was affirmed.

The House then went into committee on the Stamp Duties acts. The new scale of duties on marine insurances having been moved, Mr FORSTER moved a lower scale; which was negatived, by sixty-nine to twenty-two; and the original motion was affirmed.

Monday, May 20th.

THE BANK CHARTER.

The House having gone into committee on the resolutions respecting the proposed change in the system of banking.

Sir R. PEEL declared that he adhered to the principles already propounded by him, and that what he now proposed to do was chiefly to give some explanations upon points of detail. He would suppose that the country circulation was eight millions; that the country banks might desire, by agreement with the Bank of England, to reduce it to four millions; and that it might become necessary, which, however, would not be matter of course, for that establish-

ment to make fresh issues in order to supply the vacuum. The cases, then, in which he would allow the Bank to do so would be those of a country bank failing, or closing, or commuting its own circulation for that of the Bank of England. With respect to the question whether the bullion on which the Bank of England was to issue its notes should be allowed to include silver, he proposed that silver should be so included; but without at all departing from the great principle that there must be but one standard, and that standard a gold one: all he meant was, that if a party chose to bring silver to the bank, the bank might, within a certain limit, give it notes in exchange for it. If this were not permitted, the bank, having no interest in keeping a supply of silver, would probably cease to keep it; but it was important to the country to have access to such a supply, not only for domestic circulation, but with reference to foreign commerce, especially with India and China. He would, therefore, propose to permit an issue of notes upon silver bullion, in the proportion of one-fifth of the whole, or one part in silver to four in gold. With respect to banks of issue, he would leave them their circulation until parliament should make further order, and he would compute that circulation upon the average of what was its amount from the 6th of May, 1842, to the 6th of May, 1844, requiring henceforth a weekly publication of it. Where one bank should have taken the business of another, the benefit of the averages of the extinguished bank, should be given in the circulation of the averages of the surviving bank. If a bank should increase its branches, yet it must not be allowed to increase the total of its issues. If private banks should coalesce, the consolidated concern, being still a private bank, should be permitted to retain the benefit of the circulations of all the component banks; but he would not permit a change of character; he would not authorise a joint-stock bank to buy up the circulation of private banks. He then explained the way in which he intended that the new plan should operate with respect to those banks which have been issuing Bank of England notes; and announced that the Bank of England was prepared to enter into negotiations with other banks for arrangements under which its notes should be circulated by them. He had been taxed with leaving his argument imperfect by an omission to show in what way his plan would let in the operation of the foreign exchanges upon the home issues. Now, he considered that when he destroyed the tendency to unlimited issue from unrestrained competition, he removed the obstacle to the natural and due operation of the exchanges. There had been three great cases in which the currency had been endangered by the refusal of the country banks to contract their issues with reference to the foreign exchanges. These cases occurred in 1825, in 1834, and in 1838. At each of these periods the bullion in the Bank was diminished to a very large extent; and yet, in the face of that fact, the country banks, at each of these same periods, very largely increased their circulation, simply because there were then high prices by which speculation was stimulated. The consequence had been an alarmingly long list of failures among the private banks: in the one year 1840, there had failed no fewer than twenty-four, of which seventeen had paid no dividend. It was easy to say that people need not take country notes; but the poor could not help it. He then gave a series of instances of unjustifiable issues by private bankers, terminating in their own ruin and that of multitudes of confiding poor. He had believed that there was a general persuasion of the necessity for putting an end to such a state of things. He was anxious to put an end to it safely; to encourage arrangements between the country banks and the Bank of England, and to discourage the existing system of coining credit into currency. It had been pressed upon him, that legitimate accommodation to the agricultural and other interests would be precluded by this alteration; but no country bank could issue notes even now in the district within 65 miles round London, and yet that district suffered no inconvenience from want of legitimate accommodation. It was no just argument to say that the Bank had not always acted upon sound principles; the management of the Bank was now conducted upon much more enlightened views than formerly, and its directors were not to be judged by what they had been compelled to do under the irregular action of the present system of country banks.

Mr C. WOOD, at some length, and Sir W. CLAY, and Mr STUART WORTLEY briefly, expressed their approval of the plan.

Mr P. STEWART, though he applauded the plan in general, had some objections to make to it, which he intended hereafter to try whether he could induce the House to carry. The experiment of a single bank of issue was a bold one; but still it was an experiment only: plausible at this peaceful period, but not likely, he feared, to stand well in stormy days. If the bullion should go—if it should be brought down, as it had been, to one million—what would become of the 14 millions founded on securities? The proposal to take the average of the two last years brought the maximum of the country bankers' circulation too low: their issues for the last two years had been kept in an unusual state of depression, from a prudential consideration of the peculiar circumstances of the time. It would have been a fairer principle to take the highest point of the circulation during those two years. The plan allowed unions of private banks of issue, and yet forbade a joint-stock bank of issue to buy the issues of a private bank; thus keeping alive the more dangerous, and suppressing the more secure, circulation. The 65 mile restriction was still kept up; excluding joint-stock banks from a space which was equal to nearly one-fourth of

England, and which contained a population of five millions. That restriction he should ask of the Government to relax. Meanwhile he thanked the Government for the improvements proposed in the law of joint-stock partnership.

Mr GIBBORNE was alarmed by the awful unanimity which was manifested on the subject. He was for free trade in banking as in other commercial matters; and doubted the soundness of the doctrine which would regulate the circulation by the foreign exchanges. The measure of the government would bring about a permanent fall in prices, and substitute bullion for an expansive currency.

Mr MUNTZ said, that Sir R. Peel's principle would bring down prices, and that therefore he was not surprised to find it supported by the Opposition; but he could by no means understand how it happened to satisfy the gentlemen on the ministerial side, who wanted an increase of rents. He did not like to have the bank of issue and the bank of general business under the same roof.

Mr C. BULLER differed from most of his friends, who viewed this plan with so much favour. The failures of country banks since 1839, which had been enumerated by Sir R. Peel, proved nothing against the issue of notes, for among the whole number of failing banks, which was 81, the banks of issue were only 27.

Sir R. PEEL was not desirous that banking should remain upon its present basis; and as the privilege of issuing notes was a great inducement to set up banks, he considered himself to be effecting a useful check upon speculations ruinous both to the speculators and to the public, by preventing fresh issues of notes. With respect to Mr Newdegate's question respecting prices, he would answer, that as paper represented gold, prices would only preserve their proportion to gold; and to alter that proportion by an increase of paper was anything but desirable.

Lord WORSLEY contended that with a view to reasonable accommodations, the *maximum* allowed to the country bankers ought not to be less than the average of the highest quarters during a period of not less than five or seven years.

Sir R. PEEL said, that the averages had been arranged in such a way as to give to the country banks a *maximum* considerably higher than it would have been if limited by the amount of their now existing circulation.

The resolutions were then passed, and the House adjourned.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On Wednesday the House was counted out. IRISH CHURCH.—On Thursday, Mr WARD gave notice that, on that day fortnight, he would move that the House resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, to consider the present state of the Irish temporalities.

SUGAR DUTIES.—On Thursday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that it would not be convenient to bring forward the sugar duties before the 3rd of June; for which day he fixed the committee.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.—Sir ROBERT PEEL has given notice, that on Friday next, the 24th instant, he will move the adjournment of the House of Commons till the following Thursday.

ART UNIONS.—On Friday, Mr WYSE obtained a select committee on Art-unions.

GILBERT UNIONS.—Sir J. GRAHAM gave notice, that after the Whitsun holidays he should move for a select committee to inquire into the Gilbert unions.

NEW WRITS were on Monday ordered for the boroughs of Buckingham and Chichester, vacant by the appointments of Sir T. Freemantle and Lord Arthur Lennox.

DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL.—The second reading of this measure is postponed until Friday. The third reading will not be taken until after Whitsuntide.

The Irish Registration bill has been postponed until the 10th of June.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Friday, May 17th.

TEXAS.—Lord BROUGHAM drew attention to the annexation of Texas; its political consequences, in giving the United States an addition of coast and geographical preponderance in the Gulf of Mexico; and its effects on the slavery question. The Earl of ABERDEEN observed that the treaty had yet to be ratified or not by the American Senate. The subject comprised a question new and unexampled in the history of public law, and it would receive the serious attention of the government.

The Bishop of EXETER, after presenting a petition on the subject, laid a bill on the table for "the more effectual suppression of brothels, and trading in seduction and prostitution," which was read a first emit.

Lord WHARNCLIFFE called attention to the report of a committee appointed to inquire into the progress of the building of the two Houses of Parliament, from which it appeared that Mr Barry, the architect, had made important deviations from the plan, without authority. He moved that the report be referred to the Board of Works. The alterations were explained and censured by Lord SUDELEY. Mr Barry's conduct was condemned by Lord BROUGHAM, and extenuated by the Marquis of LANSDOWNE. Eventually, the motion was agreed to.

Monday, May 20th.

Factories Bill.

The second reading of the Factories bill was moved by

Lord WHARNCLIFFE, who stated the leading provisions of the bill, and the nature of the alterations which it would effect in the existing law.

The Marquis of NORMANBY spoke at some length, arguing in favour of a greater limitation of the hours

of factory labour, but saying that he would not make any proposition for that object, as he differed from many even of his own political friends on the question, and his attempt would, therefore, be wholly unavailing.

Lord BROUGHAM protested altogether against the bill, condemning all interference whatever with labour. Opposed to the restriction to "twelve," he was therefore more strongly opposed to that of "ten" hours.

The Earl of WINCHELSEA considered the bill to be a great improvement of the existing law, but wished that the hours of labour had been limited to "ten."

Lord CAMPBELL supported the bill. Lord HADINGTON defended the majority by whose devoted subserviency the measure had been carried in the House of Commons, and whose conduct had been somewhat rudely censured by several of the preceding speakers. Lord MINTO, like Lord BROUGHAM, objected to the principle of interference, but, after a few words in reply from Lord WHARNCLIFFE, the bill was read a second time.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

Birmingham, May 20th, 1844.

Report was made that addresses had been forwarded to the electors of Kilmarnock and Launceston, and to the Complete Suffrage Association of Manchester, for the election of South Lancashire, urging them not to give their votes to any but complete suffrage candidates. A letter was read from J. H. Wilson, the secretary, now at Edinburgh, respecting the Kilmarnock election, &c.

The following letter was read from W. S. Crawford, M.P. :—

"Crawfordsburn, May 17th, 1844.

"RESPECTED FRIEND—The public papers have already announced to you the division on the suffrage question, and its results; permit me now to call your attention to some points connected with the subject which I deem worthy of observation.

"First, you will observe that not one of our opponents offered an observation in reply to my arguments; the division was instantly called for after my seconder, Dr Bowring, had spoken. So far they left us triumphant. Why was this the case? Because both Tories and *Amalities-whigs* mutually relied upon each other, to crush by their combined and overwhelming majority the just claims of the people; and as I am anxious you should be fully aware of the arguments which I used, and the references I made to the petitions which were entrusted to me, I send you a more full report of my speech, than has appeared in the papers; at the same time I should remark, that I deemed it necessary to contract my observations, from the apprehension that if the debate was prolonged the tactic would be resorted to of counting out the House.

"Secondly. We thought we had grounds to expect an effective support from the Irish liberal members; a reference to the division list will show you that this expectation was not answered, as the names of only three* Irish members are found in the list of the minority. I must acknowledge this surprised me, because when I consider the manifestation of British sympathy in seeking the redress of Irish wrongs, so lately made by the British people, and more particularly by the complete suffrage body of the town of Birmingham, I did expect a corresponding manifestation on the part of Ireland and Irish members for the redress of British wrongs; but more particularly so when a proposition was made on the part of the British people, of complete justice to Ireland, as by the assimilation of the franchise, and the equalisation of districts over the whole United Kingdom, Ireland would have obtained her full weight, and her just proportion of representatives in the imperial parliament. I am grieved to be obliged to confess that we have at present no grounds to expect any available support from Ireland.

"Thirdly. I think, from a consideration of all the circumstances connected with this and previous divisions on this question, and the whole proceedings of the House of Commons, you will join me in the inference, that nothing effectual can be done *within* the walls of that House by any ordinary proceedings—I say by any ordinary proceedings, because both reflection and experience have confirmed me in the opinion, that the mode of action which I formerly suggested, of moving amendments and adjournments on the supplies, would be a powerful engine in extorting the redress of the grievances of the people; but this cannot be successfully attempted, unless a sufficient body of members can be rallied, who will agree to act together for this object, and who, if supported by the people, will have the moral courage to persevere in the contest.

"But whatever system of action is to be adopted, I hope the complete suffragists of Britain will be sensible that they have nothing to rely on but peaceful and constitutional agitation, and a determined and persevering advocacy of their principles—not forcing them by an attempt to compel assent, but submitting them to the test of argument, and the deliberate judgment of the nation. On this principle I have argued your question in parliament, stating your demands, and asking the House to enter into discussion in Committee, but not insisting that any member should be pledged to the details till his judgment was convinced that they were right.

"A domestic call of an afflicting nature, which you are already acquainted with, has obliged me to intermit for a time my parliamentary attendance. I feel, however, that for any good which a representa-

* Robert Archbold, Villiers Hutton, Morgan John O'Connell.

tive of the people could do at the present period of the session, and after the late manifestations of the conduct of the House of Commons, my absence is a matter of little consequence: at all events you may rely on my continued exertions in any way in which I can be serviceable in the advancement of the rights and the redress of the grievances of the whole people.

I am, respected friend,
Yours faithfully,

"WM. SHARMAN CRAWFORD.

"Joseph Sturge, &c."

The Council passed a vote of thanks to W. S. Crawford and Dr Bowring, M.P., and the 31 members who supported them on the motion, on the 18th inst., for leave to bring in a bill to provide for the full, fair, and free representation of the people.

General News.

FOREIGN.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Boston, May 1, 1844.

THE subject of the annexation of Texas to these States has been, for some weeks, the subject of greatest public interest among us. As Messrs Upsher and Gilmer were known to have been the prime movers of the measure, it was supposed and hoped by many, that their sudden and melancholy death, on board the Princeton, would defer, if it did not indeed end, all attempts to consummate it. But we have been disappointed. With the infatuation of men whom God seems to be making mad previous to their destruction, the slaveholders and their allies have pushed the question on to a present issue, but with a result as cheering to freedom as it is ominous to slavery. Hon. John C. Calhoun, of South Carolina, and of slaveholding notoriety, fills Mr Upsher's place as Secretary of State. On entering upon the duties of his office, he at once completed what Mr Upsher had begun.

The plan, as you are aware, has been to annex Texas by treaty. The treaty, with the correspondence leading to and connected with it, was sent to the senate a few days since. From the correspondence, it appears that the object of the whole movement has been to protect and uphold the slave system in the southern states, and that it had its origin in some exaggerated accounts of what passed on the subject of abolition in Texas, in the interviews of Mr Andrews and others with your own government, during the session of the general Anti-slavery Convention, the last summer, in London. "A private letter from a citizen of Maryland, then in London," Mr Upsher says, "contains the following passage:—

"I learn from a source entitled to the fullest confidence, that there is now here a Mr Andrews, deputed by the abolitionists of Texas to negotiate with the British government. That he has seen Lord Aberdeen and submitted his project for the abolition of slavery in Texas, which is, that there shall be organised a company in England, who shall advance a sufficient sum to pay for the slaves now in Texas, and receive in payment Texas lands; that the sums thus advanced shall be paid over as an indemnity for the abolition of slavery; and I am authorised by the Texan minister to say to you, that Lord Aberdeen has agreed that the British government will guarantee the payment of the interest on the loan, upon condition that the Texan government will abolish slavery."

"This was enough. Like other rogues, that 'fear each bush an officer,' the slaveholders were on the alert. Without waiting to verify the information by communication with your government, through our minister in London, on the 8th of August, 1843, Mr Upsher despatches a letter in hot haste to Texas, warning that government against the insidious and dangerous designs of England, and urging annexation to this country. Referring to the statement above, he says:—

"A movement of this sort cannot be contemplated by us in silence. Such an attempt upon any neighbouring country would necessarily be viewed by this government with very deep concern; but when it is made upon a nation whose territories join the slaveholding states of our union, it awakens a still more solemn interest. It cannot be permitted to succeed without the most strenuous efforts on our part to arrest a calamity so serious to every part of our country."

Such was the origin and object of the new movement for annexation. Subsequent information, officially communicated from your government, showed the groundlessness of the alarms that had been raised about British interference. But the slaveholders deemed the seeming occasion too good a one for accomplishing their ends to be lost; and the less real the occasion, the more determined have they seemed to be in urging the measure to a present issue. It was given out in Texas, and throughout this country, that our senate had been sounded, and that two-thirds (the necessary constitutional number) would vote for the treaty the moment it was submitted to them. Various letters, from various leading men, were thrown out in favour of the measure. Poor old General Jackson, just going to his grave, in his dotage, came out for it. In March, the *Madisonian*, the organ of President Tyler and the annexation party, said:—

"In one month from this day, we predict, the whole country will stand united on this great question, as it appeals alike to the interests and honour of all. Our flag will bear upon it 'Texas annexed to this Union,' one and inalienable. If others do not come to its support, that flag, with that motto, shall still wave in the breeze. It will sooner or later become the motto of every free-man."

All, however, was of no avail. Mr Webster came out with a noble letter against the measure. The *Boston Atlas*, the leading whig paper of the New England States, when it was really settled that a treaty would be concluded and submitted to the

senate, gave forth a perfect volcanic eruption of indignation, and declared that it would abandon Clay, the whig party, and every other man, party, and interest, and make common cause with any and every man and party that would go against the measure. Still the measure went on—Mr Clay and Mr Van Buren having nothing to say. From all parts of the country their views were asked, but to no purpose. At length the treaty went to the senate, Mr Tyler and Mr Calhoun of course both committed to it. Then Mr Clay spoke, and in a long letter, of which the following is the conclusion, put his veto on it:—

"Although I have felt compelled, from the nature of the inquiries addressed to me, to extend this communication to a much greater length than I could have wished, I could not do justice to the subject, and fairly and fully expose my own opinions in a shorter space. In conclusion, they may be stated in a few words to be, that I consider the annexation of Texas, at this time, without the assent of Mexico, as a measure compromising the national character, involving us certainly in war with Mexico, probably with other foreign powers, dangerous to the integrity of the union, inexpedient in the present financial condition of the country, and not called for by any general expression of public opinion."

A day or two after Mr Van Buren, in a still longer letter, took the same ground, and for substantially the same reason. These settle the question of any present annexation. That danger is past. The question may come up again; and, if the slaveholders can effect it, doubtless will. For till they are satisfied that they must give up slavery, they will not cease their efforts to strengthen themselves by the annexation of Texas, and the committals of the great parties and their leaders, you observe, are only against present annexation. Give the friends of freedom time, however, and I think we are tolerably safe for the future. With time, Providence, and the general sentiment of the Christian world against them, I think the slaveholders will have an uphill work of it.

P.

We have been favoured with the following extracts from letters on the same subject, from other influential gentlemen in America:—

"The President has communicated to the senate the treaty between the United States and Texas, with the diplomatic correspondence; and although they were intended to be private, somehow or other they have got into the newspapers. The whole affair has been so clumsily executed that it excited the ridicule of the honest and intelligent portion of the community. The senate will refuse to ratify the treaty by a large vote, but an attempt will be made to obtain the consent of Mexico. If that power gives her consent, I am afraid Texas will be annexed after all."

"TUESDAY, APRIL 30.—I have not time to express my congratulations on the result of the Texan conspiracy. The danger of immediate annexation is certainly over. My views remain the same as they ever were, with regard to the fixed determination of the slaveholders, arising from the inexorable necessities of slavery, to press for annexation whenever and by whatever means they may find it possible. There is to be no rest or security but in general emancipation. The unsettled state of affairs in Cuba is beginning to attract attention here: I hope our ever vigilant London committee will keep a good look out. Having to obtain all our information through pro-slavery or mercenary channels, we must look to you for the most authentic views on this subject. The letters of Messrs Clay and Van Buren on the subject of Texas are evidences of returning security, as the passing of the tax bill by the legislature of Pennsylvania is of returning honesty. I do not yet despair of the republic."

FRANCE.

Paris has been startled by the appearance of the Prince de Joinville as a pamphleteer, in opposition to the ministry, but in harmony with the war party. Ministers are reported to have protested against the publication of the prince's lucubrations; the King himself is said to have exerted his paternal authority in an endeavour at suppression; but the royal agitator was obstinate, and the pamphlet was published on Wednesday. It is a Cassandra-like warning on the state of the French navy. The author disclaims animosity to England and desire for war; but speculates freely on the feasibility of attacking this island, and of destroying our confidence in our insular position and in our commercial marine. When sailing was the only resource of the navy, he says, France could not compete with England, because success belonged to whichever nation could furnish most sailors. Now an engine takes the place of a hundred sailors, and France could always furnish enough soldiers and money for a steam marine. To preserve peace, one must be prepared for war; and steam navigation gives France an opportunity of attaining equality with England. But her ministers have allowed England to get the start; hence his pamphlet. It appears that only 100 copies of the pamphlet were printed and then distributed privately; but the *Revue des Deux Mondes* obtained a copy, and published the whole of it in its columns.

The Chamber of Deputies has at length got through the clauses of the Prison Reform bill, and on Saturday the Chamber divided on the whole bill, when it was passed by a majority of 231 to 128 votes. The system adopted in this measure is the Pennsylvanian system, somewhat modified, and its adoption appears upon the whole to give general, though not universal, satisfaction to those who have taken an interest in the question.

In the Chamber of Peers the bill on Secondary Instruction remains under discussion, but the adoption of the 24th article of the bill on Saturday, as amended by the committee, and which deprives the University of all right to interfere with private establishments,

promised to facilitate the work of the Chamber; but it is impossible that the bill can be discussed by the deputies in the present session.

ITALY.

According to the last accounts from Italy, political executions had commenced in the Roman states. Seven of the twenty individuals sentenced to death by the military commissioners sitting at Bologna were shot in that city on the 4th inst., almost without the knowledge of the population, the sentence having been notified to the condemned on the previous evening at a late hour. The executions have caused a most painful sensation throughout Tuscany, but the *Times* confidently asserts that there exists no danger of any serious political outbreak in Italy.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE ENGLISH COLONY IN CHINA.—The *Hongkong Gazette*, Feb. 6, 1844, observes, in a leading article:—"We are glad to observe a numerous arrival of ladies in our colony; and, unlike the ladies in India, it gives us pleasure to see that they are anxious to maintain their health by the delightful recreation of walking exercise; but many have mentioned to us the impossibility of so doing, from the dreadful state of our roads, often ankle deep in mud!" "Ladies," adds the editor, "are also settling in Canton, so long shut out from that community."

FRENCH MOVEMENTS ON THE COAST OF AFRICA.—By letters from Liberia it appears that the French are in earnest about acquiring territory on the western coast, and rivaling, if possible, the commerce of the English. The French brig of war, *Maloine*, has lately carried some marines and Joloffs from the Senegal, with guns, ammunition, and materials of every description, to a tract of land purchased near Cape Palmas, and block-houses and frames for dwellings have probably been conveyed thither by this time. These steps the Americans profess to consider as of vast importance.—*Friend of the Africans*.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Friday afternoon, the train from Brussels to Antwerp, on that line of railway, was thrown off the rails, nearly opposite the Vieux Dieux station, by the breaking of the axle-tree of the second carriage, and coming in violent contact with a carriage laden with sand on the parallel line of rail, produced a shock that dashed to pieces four of the train. One woman was killed on the spot, and another expired in the course of the night, from the fractures they had received. A passenger from Arras, accompanied by his son, was found to be very seriously injured. Another passenger, a baker, of Hoboken, died last night in the hospital. Four other persons have been conveyed to the hospital. The number of persons whose lives are said to be in danger is eight or ten; some of them were conveyed to their own homes, others to various hotels in Antwerp.

PROTESTANTS AT ROME.—ROME, APRIL 13.—A weekly meeting of Englishmen has, for some time past, been held in this city, in the apartments of an Englishman of rank, for the purpose of reading the scriptures and prayer, at which the Dean of Ardagh has presided; and Dr Keith, the writer on prophecy, Dr Harris, of Cheshunt, Mr Ellis, of the South seas, several English clergymen, and persons from Germany and America, have been present. On one of these occasions, the assembly was turned into a missionary meeting in behalf of the London societies, and Lord Gainsborough took the chair. The Roman catholic church, however, which is making such an appeal to the principles of liberty in Ireland, and complains so loudly of the exclusion of the jesuits by the Queen of Tahiti, has put a stop to the meetings by an order which I give you. The landlord of the house in which the meetings had been held, was sent for, and a *procès verbal* was drawn up, which he was compelled to sign, enjoining him not again to let his house to "methodists," and not any more to hold a public kitchen in his house. The poor man did not so much care about the first part of the order; but applied to the government to relax the order about his kitchen. This they at once did, saying, their object had only been to stop the meetings, and if that object were effected, he need not be afraid to continue to furnish dinners. Of course, this cunning policy succeeded, and the meetings ceased. But the order about "methodists" stands. They told him it meant, "those who want to reform their own religion," and clearly it would not mean any particular body of protestants, for the meeting included protestants of several denominations. The term is, "persons of any nation whatever who are methodists." I trust you will make some use of this, to draw forth an opinion from the Roman catholic liberals. It is high time they repudiated, in express terms, such bigotry, or give up their own profession of liberal principles, which they in practice, where they have power, violate.—*Private Correspondent of the Globe*.

A TRINIDAD MAN ABOUT TO BE SOLD AS A SLAVE IN NEW ORLEANS.—We have been informed that a coloured man, named Henry Bennet, who says he is a British subject, and native of this island, is now lying in jail in New Orleans, where he has been for the last two years, in consequence of his not being able to prove himself a freeman. He is a short stout-made man, and much marked with the small pox, and says that he was for some time in the employment of Mr Gibbs, formerly of Port of Spain. The British consul informed the gentleman through whose attention to the cause of humanity this information has been brought to this island, that there are three other persons, who claim the privilege of British subjects, in the same unfortunate circumstances, and who will soon be sold as slaves to pay expenses, if not speedily liberated from their imprisonment.—*Trinidad Standard*.

SCENE IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS.—A disgraceful scene took place in Congress, on the 23rd ult. Mr White stood up to defend Mr Clay from a host of aspersions. Mr White having been warm in his language, a Mr Rathbone grappled with him, and they fought with fists. A stranger, named Moore, made his way to the scene of action, when Mr Causlen, seeing he was not a member, proceeded to drag him from the house. On this Moore drew a pistol, and fired it at him. A policeman averted the shot, when it took effect on the arm of another of the police. Moore was taken into custody. The whole affair was referred to a committee of five for investigation, with instructions to report a bill for the punishment of offences committed within the house. At the solicitation of friends, Mr Rathbone and Mr White shook hands, amid the applause of the House. Thus that affair ended. Moore was retained in custody of the sergeant-at-arms of the house. The officer is not mortally wounded. The ball entered the thigh. His name is John L. Whitt.

We observe with great pleasure the effort made by the directors of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Company, to supersede the employment of slave-labour at their works in Brazil, and we cannot doubt the sincerity of the "applause" which, according to the report in the papers of the half-yearly meeting, greeted this most gratifying announcement.—*Anti-Slavery Reporter*.

HAYTI.—Intelligence has been received from Hayti to the 14th April; but it does not add much to that previously received. President Hérard had been killed, and the island remained in the utmost confusion. It is said that the Spaniards in the southern part intended to set up a separate republic.

THE JEWS AT FRANKFORT.—The *Commerce* announces that a violent schism has arisen amongst the community of Israelites at Frankfort. Two-thirds of the community had separated from the synagogue, and had formed a separate sect. They style themselves reformers. They neither recognise religious ceremonies nor the fundamental laws of the Talmud. In their declaration of principles they declare that they will no longer circumcise their children, and they totally renounce the belief in a Messiah. Baron Anselm Rothschild, the head of the celebrated banking house at Frankfort, had declared a determined war against the new sect, and refuses to discount any bills bearing the signature of any of the new community. The affair has been laid before the Germanic Diet. The sectarians are accused of fomenting and concealing in their religious formula political tendencies subversive and pernicious to the state. Notwithstanding these accusations, the Senate of Frankfort had declared warmly in favour of the new Israelites.

THE JEWS IN POLAND.—The *Suabian Mercury* says that nothing is yet arranged with regard to the Jews in Poland. They do not know if they will be allowed to leave Poland and Russia, and, in the mean time, they are kept in a state of the most painful suspense.

A DISCOVERY.—A letter from Trieste states, that the new Greek ministry has discovered a document, from which it appears that the King of Bavaria owes Greece not less than ten millions of florins, which was promised during the war of the Greek independence, on condition that a prince of the Bavarian royal family should be elevated to the throne of that country.

CASE OF JOHN L. BROWN.—Our readers will be gratified to learn that J. L. Brown, condemned to death, it will be remembered, for aiding in the escape of a female slave—has been pardoned, and released from confinement, by the government of South Carolina. This important fact is announced in the following letter from her Majesty's Consul for North and South Carolina to Baillie Urquhart, of Edinburgh:—

British Consulate, Charleston, April 26, 1844.

SIR—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt, by this morning's mail, of your letter of the 30th ult., transmitting a copy of resolutions adopted at a public meeting held in your city on the preceding day; and I have the most lively gratification in being able to inform you that John L. Brown, the individual who was condemned to death at Winnsborough, in this state, for aiding the escape of a female slave from her master's service, has been pardoned by his Excellency the Governor of South Carolina, and released from confinement.

I understand that a letter, explanatory of the case, has recently been published by the judge who presided on the trial; and if I can procure a copy of it, I shall do myself the honour of forwarding it to you by the first opportunity. I am, &c.,

WILLIAM OGILBY,
Her Majesty's Consul for North and South Carolina.

P.S.—As I shall not have time to write by this mail to the other magistrates and town councils throughout Scotland, from whom I have received communications similar to yours, I beg you will be so good as to give publicity to this letter for their information.

W. O.

To John Urquhart, Esq., Acting
Chief Magistrate of the City of Edinburgh.

THE CONGREGATIONAL MOVEMENT IN FAVOUR OF EDUCATION.—We rejoice to perceive, from the statements made at the annual meeting of the Congregational Union in London, that the contributions of the Congregational body for the promotion of day schools, have nearly reached the very large amount of Fifty Thousand Pounds. It is still the intention of the body to persevere, and not to rest satisfied till the amount is raised to at least a Hundred Thousand. In connexion with this important and patriotic movement, public meetings are intended to be held in the large towns of the West Riding of Yorkshire in the third week in June, when Chas. Hindley, Esq., M.P., and the Rev. Dr Reed, will attend as a deputation from London.—*Leeds Mercury*.



A ROYAL VISIT.—(From a Correspondent.)—The King of the French has postponed for the present his visit to this country. It is, however, his intention, should no unforeseen obstacles intervene, to arrive here in September next. He will visit her gracious Majesty at her marine residence. Louis Philippe will be attended by two responsible advisers of the crown—M. Guizot, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and, if circumstances allow of it, the President of Council, Marshal Soult, will be one of the official personages selected.—*Times*.

ROYAL VISITS.—We are enabled to state, on good authority, that circumstances of a domestic nature will prevent her Majesty from having the pleasure of receiving the visits of their majesties the Emperor of Russia and the King of Hanover, at a period when it would be practicable for their Majesties to leave their respective dominions. We regret, therefore, to announce that neither of these sovereigns will visit this country during the present season.—*Morning Post*. [A happy riddance.]

Friday night's *Gazette* states that the Queen has appointed Sir Thomas Fremantle to be Secretary at War.

NORRIS CASTLE, we can state positively, has neither been purchased nor hired by her Majesty, nor, as far as we can learn, are any negotiations on such a matter pending.—*Observer*.

MARY FURLEY.—In reply to an application from Mr. Bright, M.P., in behalf of Mary Furley, Mr. Phillips, the under secretary for the home department, informs that gentleman that Sir James Graham, "under all the circumstances of the case, has felt warranted in advising her Majesty to commute the prisoner's sentence to seven years' transportation."

MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS.—The *Morning Herald* announces that Lord Talbot is to have the garter vacant by the death of the late Earl of Lonsdale. Lord Granville Somerset has a seat in the cabinet, retaining his present appointment of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Sir Thomas Fremantle succeeds Sir Henry Hardinge as secretary at war, without a seat in the cabinet. John Young, Esq., M.P. for the county of Cavan, and one of the lords of the Treasury, succeeds Sir Thomas Fremantle as secretary to the Treasury. The *Morning Post* adds, "We have reason to believe that the vacant lordship of the Treasury has been offered by Sir R. Peel to Lord A. Lennox, brother of his grace the Duke of Richmond." To this we may ourselves add, that Lord Arthur Lennox has accepted the appointment.—*Times*.

DIVISION ON THE FACTORIES BILL.—In reference to this strange event, the correspondent of the *Scotsman* says—

On the conclusion of his (Sir R. Peel's) forcible speech I personally noticed numbers of Tories moving towards all the doors of exit. It was almost ludicrous to see members sidling from the bar into the lobbies, and from the galleries into the library, and thence making their way through the corridors into the street. Sir Robert Peel personally, I know, did not expect a majority exceeding thirty-five; and Sir Thomas Fremantle, his man of business, charged with the hunt and whip of the ministerial pack, at a late period of the evening, declared the greatest possible maximum to be sixty! It is singular that so incredible was the division that many members after its declaration went to bed in the belief that the figure was thirty-eight, not 138!

DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL.—On Saturday, deputations from the Presbyterian church of Ireland, the Wesleyan committee of privilege, the Congregational Union, and the Protestant dissenting deputies, waited on Sir Robert Peel, to request delay in the furtherance of the measure. It is probable the bill will not again come before the House until after the Whitsuntide holidays.

THE CONVICT BARBER.—Great exertions, it appears, are being made with the government to procure some amelioration of the sentence of transportation for life upon this convict. A petition, prepared by the solicitor of Barber, has been presented to her Majesty on behalf of Barber. It is reported Mr. Wilkins has had an interview with Sir J. Graham relative to Barber, and that the transportation has been postponed for a month.—*Observer*.

"CONINGSBY, OR THE NEW GENERATION."—Mr. D'Israeli, the author of "Curiosities of Literature," and the would-be leader of "Young England" in the House of Commons, has created quite a *furor* in the literary world, by the publication of a new three-volume novel, under the title of "Coningsby, or the New Generation." The novel seems to have been written with the view of giving a full exposition of the principles of "Young England," the story being quite subsidiary to this main design. The work has called forth the endearments of the *Times*, which took it under its patronage almost before it had seen the light, and on Monday concluded its *fourth* review of this highly-favoured publication. As to the nature of the contents of this truly "literary curiosity," the *Examiner* favours its readers with the following pithy summary:—

"But somehow the existing political system is wholly infidel, and the young Coningsby gentlemen are to restore faith to it; they are to get rid of national establishments, and bring us back to holy church universal; the good system of old anointed kings is to replace the heresy of modern chief magistrates; and the rude Brummagem enjoyment of parliaments of virtual representation is to be set aside for the high monarchical delicacy of 'Estates of the realm.' There was a parrot lost the other day from a Southampton railway carriage, and advertised in Wednesday's *Times*, which could say distinctly these three things:—'Good morning,' 'Be a good boy,' 'Church and king for ever.' It was a 'gray' parrot, but clearly a bird of the new generation. We have its cries in this book, *ad nauseam*, backed by a quantity of awful historic lore on the abstruse subject of Venetian dogs, pure Caucasian breeds, and Mosaic types."

A most severe contest has recently closed between two rival petitions from companies intending to form a railway from Colchester to Harwich. It ended in both the bills being thrown out. The expense thus fruitlessly incurred will amount at least, on each side, to £12,000.

Postscript.

Wednesday, May 22nd.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Both houses of parliament rose early last evening. With the exception of routine business, and the laying of a bill, by Lord Brougham, on the table, the object of which is to amend the laws relating to imprisonment for debt (which, we suppose, is a rival of Lord Cottenham's bill already in the house), there was no leading business in the House of Lords, with the exception of the case of the Maltese tried for murder at Tunis, which

Lord Beaumont adverted to. He thought it a matter to which the attention of the government should be specially directed, for if the unwarrantable interference of the French consul at Tunis was tolerated by this country, our trade along the Barbary coast would soon be at an end. He moved for the production of the correspondence between the Foreign office and Sir Thomas Reade, our consul at Tunis, relating to this matter.

The Earl of Aberdeen replied, that the difficulties attending the subject of jurisdiction in the Levant were very great—a fact of which Lord Campbell was well aware, he having endeavoured to introduce a measure which would obviate them. A bill, however, introduced by himself, was now the law of the land, which, he hoped, would enable them to apply a remedy. The particular case referred to by Lord Beaumont was that of a deliberately planned and cold-blooded murder, perpetrated in the open day; and the course which the government had pursued was consistent with existing treaties, and had the sanction of the highest legal authority.

The House of Commons, after disposing of its preliminary business, had its attention called by

Mr. Peter Borthwick to the operation of the Anatomy act. As he was proceeding with his speech, the House suddenly wasted away to a skeleton; and at twenty-five minutes past five o'clock expired of "counting out."

Mr. C. P. Villiers gave notice that on that day fortnight he would submit a motion on the subject of the corn laws, and Mr. Christie postponed to that day fortnight his motion relative to the universities.

A large number of petitions were presented for and against the Dissenters' Chapels Bill.

PEACE SOCIETY.—Yesterday evening the annual meeting of this Society took place at Finsbury chapel, Moorfields, and was numerously attended by members of the society of Friends in particular. The chair was taken by C. Hindley, Esq., M.P., when Mr. Jefferson, the secretary, read the report, from which it appeared that the society had made great efforts in the past year to extend the principles of peace both at home and in foreign countries; and that the resolutions of the peace convention had been presented to the monarchs of Europe, and of other countries. Within a short period thirty-four lectures had been delivered, and thirty-two meetings held, by which about 9,000 persons had received an opportunity of considering the subject of universal peace, out of whom 2,300 had affixed their names to the petitions. The committee had distributed a large quantity of their tracts and resolutions in the Welsh language to the populace, during the disturbances in Wales, and about 10,000 copies in the English language. The agent of the society had written of the formation of a Peace society in Paris, and in other parts of the French empire, and also spoke highly of the favourable reception of the principles of peace both in Germany and Holland. The report alluded to the loss of one of the society's best friends, William Allen, Esq. From the accounts it appeared that the total income for the past year was £1,796 4s. The chairman was then re-elected president of the society, and J. J. Gurney, Esq., the vice-president. The chairman then entered into a speech of considerable length, in which he maintained the necessity of referring national disputes to arbitration, as most consonant to common sense, as well as with the principles of Christianity. He also ridiculed the practice of duelling, and closed his oration amidst great applause. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Stock, Mr. Richards, J. S. Buckingham, Esq., G. Thompson, Esq., and several other gentlemen, after which a collection was made, and the meeting separated.

THE WEST INDIA INTEREST pronounced yesterday against the contemplated alteration in the sugar duties. The place of meeting was Willis's rooms, King street, St. James's, where a numerous body of proprietors were assembled. Viscount Combermere was called to the chair; and among the speakers were the Earl of Harewood, Sir E. Hyde East, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Mackinnon, M.P., Viscount St. Vincent, Sir A. Grant, Sir W. Codrington, Sir A. L. Hay, Sir J. R. Reid, M.P., Mr. P. W. Stewart, M.P., Mr. Burge, &c. Of course the monopolists considered themselves an ill-used body, loudly complained of the ruin which the abolition of slavery had entailed upon them, and strongly censured the policy of the present cabinet. The following were the principal resolutions passed:—

"That this meeting has learned with the greatest surprise and dismay, that it is the intention of her Majesty's government to propose a large reduction of the duties on foreign sugar, coffee, and cocoa, unaccompanied by any reduction of the duties on similar products of British growth."

"That the entire value of property in the West Indies directly affected by the act of Emancipation, at the most moderate computation, greatly exceeded £100,000,000, while the proportion of the compensation accorded to the West India colonies was less than £17,000,000."

"That an ample supply of suitable free labourers might, nevertheless, at any time have been procured from the redundant population of British India, and that a very large addition to the effective labour of the Mauritius has in fact been derived from that source since the period of the emancipation, to the preservation and great advancement of that colony as well as the advantage of the labourers who have found employment there; but the West India colonies, though confessedly suffering the greatest distress from the want of labour, and willing to supply the deficiency at their own expense, have never yet been permitted to resort to India for that purpose."

"That if, nevertheless, the proposed reduction of the duties on foreign produce be persisted in, it is essential to the very existence of the West India colonies that the duties on their produce be simultaneously reduced, whereby the price to the consumer might be lowered, without loss to the revenue."

LAUNCESTON ELECTION.—Admiral Bowle was on Monday elected a member of parliament for this borough without opposition.

REPRESENTATION OF SOUTH LANCASHIRE.—On Monday the free trade candidate, Mr. Brown, and his friends, had a hard day's canvass. Early in the morning they proceeded to Todmorden, where they were received by a large number of manufacturers. A concourse of from 3000 to 4000 persons were assembled to greet him; many of the operatives in this, as well as other towns in the neighbourhood, having obtained a holiday on the occasion. Mr. Brown was closely questioned on political topics, but his replies are not given in the papers. He, however, expressed his objection to the ballot. There are from 170 to 180 voters at Todmorden, and out of these the free traders calculate on a majority of at least 100. From thence the party proceeded to Rochdale, which they entered almost in triumphal procession; a large number of horsemen, a string of carriages, and from 15,000 to 20,000 people being assembled to greet Mr. Brown. An open meeting was held, which was addressed by Mr. Cobden and Mr. Brown. The catechising system was renewed. Mr. Livesey, the chief questioner, said they had put the same questions to Mr. Brown as they had a few days before to Mr. Entwistle; and though Mr. Brown did not go so far as he could wish, there was a degree of toleration about his sentiments much more deserving of their applause than had been displayed by the conservative candidate. Mr. Cobden said Mr. Brown did not come up to his point on many questions; but he was a free trader, and he believed him to be an honest free trader. The candidate and his friends partook of a cold collation at Tweedale's hotel. Rochdale has 1,465 voters on the list, and in this place, in 1837, the Tories polled 510 votes, and the Liberals 509; on this occasion there will be a great majority against the Tories. The party then proceeded to Oldham, which they entered accompanied by nearly five hundred horsemen and about fifty carriages, the road being lined with people. Mr. Brown received a cordial welcome, and speeches were made and resolutions passed in his favour, as at the other places of his visit. The same scene was repeated at Ashton, and Mr. Brown and his friends then returned to Manchester after their day's work. Mr. Entwistle, the conservative candidate, visited on Monday Bolton and Bury. The *Times* speaks of his prospects somewhat doubtfully—

The question of free trade, together with Mr. Entwistle's hesitation upon the factory question, has undoubtedly damaged him in this immediate part of the county. His own friends admit that they shall lose strength in Manchester, but contend that what they lose here they shall more than regain in Liverpool and in the agricultural districts. As regards Liverpool, however, some doubts may be expressed as to the correctness of this statement. There is one pleasing feature in the present as contrasted with the proceedings of former elections—the greatest good humour prevails. On previous occasions the walls and buildings of every town and every village in the county were plastered over with the most scurrilous placards, published by both parties. Little of this rancorous feeling is as yet exhibited in the proceedings preparatory to the present contest.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The weekly meeting on Monday was very thinly attended. Mr. John O'Connell, M.P., was the chief speaker. The repeal rent, including £376 from America, was announced to be £580.

FRANCE.—The French journals being in want of a topic, have pounced upon the Hayti question, and recommend the re-subjugation of that island. The weather had become exceedingly wet and cold in Paris. "Since Friday last," says a Paris letter, "we have been visited by November. It rained incessantly, though not heavily, from Friday evening till noon on Sunday."

SPAIN.—The first act of Narvaez's administration, after the abolition of military law, is to add six thousand men to the army, under the name of civic guards. M. Madoz has at length been set at liberty, but neither he nor the other deputies can obtain any redress for the imprisonment they have been made to endure. They are not even allowed the miserable satisfaction of knowing the crime for which they were incarcerated. The Queen of Spain is to go shortly to Barcelona. While there, the Count de Trappani, brother to the King of Naples, will, it is expected, pay her a visit, and a little courtship will ensue, the count aspiring to the hand of the young Queen.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Pears	Flour
English ...	1250	240	1830			
Scotch ...						
Irish ...			2450			
Foreign ...	1800	8740				

No alteration in prices—not much doing.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Samuel True." It is now in the press.
 "C. A. Windeatt," "J. P.," "J. A. Slater," and
 "John Somerville," received.

Our Lynn correspondent may, perhaps, be surprised to hear that, in our opinion, the clergyman he speaks of acted with unusual consistency and courtesy, and that the dissenters who prize ecclesiastical rites, at the hands of a church from which they dissent, are the real parties to blame.

"W. Higgs." Next week, if possible.
 "W. K." We believe the matter is settled to his satisfaction.
 "J. M." Next week.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.
 For 7 lines....6s. 0d. | For 10 lines....6s. 0d.
 For every additional line..... 4d.

For a half column £1 5s. | For a column...£2 0s.
 * Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or reference for payment in London.

Orders for the *Nonconformist* are received at the office, and by all booksellers and newsvendors. The terms of subscription, if paid in advance, are £1 6s. per annum. All communications for the Editor should be addressed to the office, No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1844.

SUMMARY.

THE postscript of our last number contained a short account of a remarkably short discussion—no, not discussion, for that is a term implying that something has been said on both sides of the question—say rather, introductory observations, delivered by Mr Sharman Crawford and Dr Bowring on a motion for leave to introduce a bill for the full, fair, and free representation of the people in parliament. Not a remark was hazarded in reply. Neither Sir Robert Peel nor Lord John Russell vouchsafed a single word. A division was called for at the close of Dr Bowring's speech, when the numbers were, for the motion, 31; against it, 97; majority 66. We are not much surprised at this contemptuous treatment given by the present House of Commons to a question of organic reform. We own that no consideration could have induced us to overcome our original repugnance to bring this matter, at its present stage, before a notoriously corrupt parliament, but the hope that a knowledge of our principles would be more widely diffused by the publicity given to all the proceedings of that body. Even this hope the House of Commons seems now intent upon defeating, rendering it extremely doubtful, in our judgment, whether any further attempt in this direction, previously to another general election, can be regarded as expedient. The sphere for the labours of complete suffragists is out of doors. The work which they have to do is to enlighten, and, if possible, win over, the popular constituencies. Steady work must be perseveringly followed up, and that for some considerable period, before the smallest impression can be made upon the legislature. Favourable opportunities, as in the case of the Kilmarnock burghs, must be vigilantly looked for, and promptly turned to account. We see no reason for further courting the contempt of the present House of Commons. Mr Crawford has done all which the best friends of the cause could have desired at his hands; and, before he is called upon for a still further exercise of his moral courage, we think it important to back him with some twenty or thirty determined comrades. We trust the National Complete Suffrage Union will give their attention to this point, and make it their aim to secure the return to the next parliament of as large a body of men as possible, upon whose zealous co-operation they can confidently rely.

On Wednesday evening the House, according to custom, was counted out. On Thursday it was engaged in a discussion, got up by Sir C. Napier, on the state of the navy list. On Friday the House went into committee on the Customs' Duties bill, for the purpose of making such alterations in the tariff as ministers proposed when they brought forward the budget. Some merriment was excited on the question of apples, plums, canary-seeds, and orange-peel, and, even in these small matters, it is apparent that due regard is paid to vested interests.

On Monday evening, Sir Robert Peel, after another long speech on the subject of banking and currency, stating some of the alterations in detail which he intended to admit, proposed the series of resolutions which he had laid on the table of the House a fortnight before. This is not the time nor the place to enter into an elaborate examination of the general principles of his plan. It may suffice for us at the present moment to suggest, first, our grave doubts of the soundness of that policy which would regulate the expansion or contraction of our circulation by the flow and ebb of foreign exchanges; secondly, our jealousy at the evident aim of the government to throw the monetary affairs of this country into the hands of a monopoly; thirdly, our conviction that the effect of the new measure will be, by fixing as nearly as possible a maximum of circulation, whatever

may be the augmentation of property in the country, to increase the value of money, to give further advantage to the fundholder, to depreciate prices, and to cripple, if it does not ultimately paralyse, our whole commercial system. Sir Robert Peel's proposal is another boon offered to wealthy capitalists, and will go far to give them despotic control over all the pecuniary transactions of this country; we are not surprised, therefore, at the eulogiums which the premier has elicited from the various writers of the city articles in the daily papers. Those writers correctly represent the money interest, and to this interest the contemplated bill makes over a profitable monopoly. The resolutions were carried without a division.

The House of Lords has registered the Factories bill. It passed its second reading on Monday night, without a division, though not altogether without remark.

And now for a word or two on the pending elections. South Lancashire, we take it for granted, will be won by the League; for certainly, if lost, it will prove "a heavy blow and great discouragement" to the cause of free trade. Our sympathies, however, are especially attracted towards Kilmarnock; where the indefatigable and eloquent Henry Vincent stands forward as a candidate. The circumstances of this case are somewhat peculiar. There are four candidates in the field, not one of whom is a conservative. Mr Vincent was first on the ground; and inasmuch as, besides complete suffrage, he strenuously advocates the principles of commercial freedom, we are somewhat at a loss to discover the public reasons which have influenced Mr Bouverie, the late candidate for Salisbury, to step in and peril a division amongst the friends, to use a cant phrase, "of the liberal cause." Mr Robertson, once editor of the *Westminster Review*, a fast friend of the Free church, is a third candidate; and the Laird of Assloss, of whom we know nothing, is a fourth. We trust that the electors of the Kilmarnock burghs will prove both their discernment and their patriotism, by adopting the first man who presented himself for their suffrages. They would thereby earn the gratitude of every friend of parliamentary reform in the three kingdoms. We have given as much intelligence respecting this affair as our columns will admit of. We shall not presume to anticipate the result; but we cannot but rejoice that, whatever it may be, the present agitation will do much to advance the cause of complete suffrage.

Our Monday's supplementary paper contained a full report of the great Anti-slavery meeting in Exeter hall. Our readers will have perceived that the question of the admission of slave-grown sugar into the British market, was brought forward by George Thompson, Esq., and discussed with an ability, a power, and a truthfulness, which, had our mind been wavering on the question, would assuredly have gone far to settle it. It appears clear, that the course pursued by the Anti-slavery committee is open to two serious objections. Waiving altogether any consideration of the principle involved, which we have discussed elsewhere, it yet remains to be considered, first, that by making the admission of the sugar of Brazil and Cuba dependent on their abolition of slavery, the whole West India interest, which largely profits from its exclusion, and with that interest the government, which cannot dispense with its support, are converted into the most influential party for encouraging henceforth and for ever the maintenance of that very system in Brazil, the existence of which throws the monopoly of the sugar market into their own hands; and secondly, that the exclusion of slave-grown sugar from the British market will not have the effect of hindering the ultimate sale of a single pound of it, inasmuch as the vacuum created by our taking from the European stock a large amount of the produce of free labour for our use, will be instantly supplied by Brazil and Cuba. We thus inflict an injury upon our own manufacturing population in the serious loss of commerce which we sustain, whilst our self-sacrifice will command no relaxation whatever for the slave. It so happens that when men, even with the purest and most benevolent intentions, aim to control great providential laws, they not only fail of doing the good which they have in view, but entail upon themselves and others a vast amount of evil.

There is only one other topic upon which we find it necessary to touch in this our running comment upon passing affairs, and it is the decision of the Privy Council in the case of *Bearblock v. Piggott*, for subtraction of church rate. It will be remembered that Piggott some time ago objected to the legality of a rate imposed upon him, amongst other reasons, because it was retrospective. Sir Herbert Jenner Fust decided against him, and his decision (and this is the third within a short period which has met a similar fate) has been reversed by the highest legal tribunal of the land. Mr Piggott was not allowed his costs, for what reason does not appear. He is a poor man, and he has fought his battle with unflinching courage. We trust that that sympathy, which so promptly responded to the appeal from Norwich in the shape of pecuniary

assistance, will not be withheld in the present instance, and that the comparatively rich will not be found to have engaged the help of their brethren more speedily and effectually than the hopelessly poor. We have inserted a letter from Mr Apsley Pellatt on this subject, to which we beg to call attention; and an advertisement appears in its proper place, which we trust will be productive of the full amount of money needed.

THE DUTY OF GOVERNMENT IN RELATION TO SLAVE PRODUCE.

THE annual meeting of the Anti-slavery Society on Friday last, the main topic which came under its consideration, and the result at which it arrived, render it imperative upon us, in the discharge of our duty, to discuss the question of the obligations of the government of this country in regard to slave produce. We shall attempt to perform our task in a calm and conscientious spirit. Men whose integrity of character and whose earnest philanthropy are placed above suspicion, have differed in their views of this important subject. We feel it to be unnecessary, therefore, either to call in question the motives of those from whom we differ, or to impugn their wisdom. We deem it quite sufficient to state, with all brevity, the reasons which have guided us to the conclusions we entertain, and leave our readers to decide upon their validity.

The question, in its concrete form, is environed with considerations which appeal with almost irresistible energy to the compassionate feelings of our nature, and which, by means of that appeal, are apt to warp the decisions of the judgment. It will be, we think, for the advantage of all parties, that the subject should be looked at as abstractedly as possible—that, setting aside, for a moment, the legions of exciting facts which come rushing into the mind to divert attention, we should endeavour to settle general principles. If those principles be sound, we may safely follow them whithersoever they conduct us; if otherwise, no caution in the application of them, no purity of intention, no sagacity, were it superhuman, can prevent our being landed on ultimately disastrous consequences.

The committee of the Anti-slavery Society, in seeking the extirpation of slavery from the world, deem it incumbent on them to call in the aid of government, and, by fiscal regulations, to promote the object at which they aim. They argue, and not without considerable force, that slave produce is stolen produce—they contend that government is bound to take notice of this fact—and they conclude that, on every principle of morality, as well as of humanity, the import of such produce into Great Britain ought to be prohibited by law. If they are right in their principle, they are right in the application of it. It is on this ground, therefore, that the discussion must be taken.

The general truth which this theory involves may be thus laid down:—"It is the duty of governments, in regulating the commercial intercourse between their own subjects and the subjects of other realms, to be guided in their policy by a reference to the moral habits which obtain in those realms; and, in deciding upon the admission or exclusion into their own markets of articles of trade, to take into consideration the mode in which those articles were produced, the moral character of the practices resorted to in securing whether their growth or their manufacture, and the influence which commerce may exert in furtherance of oppression or of freedom, in the kingdoms from which these articles are obtained." Now, we demur to the soundness of this principle—and we shall content ourselves with stating, as nakedly as possible, why we thus demur.

In the first place, then, we hold the regulation of commerce to be no proper business of governments at all. The right of one man to dispose of the product of his own labour to any other man, who may offer him an equivalent, was antecedent to the institution of government, and, certainly, cannot be abrogated by it. Like all other rights, it is to be exercised by the possessor of it, on his individual responsibility, in subordination to the dictates of morality. Viewed in his relation to God, indeed, he may not act as he pleases. He is under restrictions—restrictions which he will throw off at his peril. But, considered in his relation to government, his right is circumscribed by no single exception which does not plainly spring up out of the objects or the necessities of government. Where, for example, the exchange of his labour would obviously lead to the infliction of wrong upon another subject of the realm, the state, whose business it is to extend equal protection to all its subjects, is bound to step in and prevent the exchange. Quoad the government, therefore, the right remains as it did, save where it clashes with the will of the government in the execution of its proper and legitimate functions. Now, it is clearly one object of those functions to protect from injury, by fraud or force, the property of its own subjects; and, in attaining this object, its duty to punish the receivers of stolen goods must be admitted. There is no correct analogy, however, between this restriction of the right, and

that which would prevent commercial dealing with slave-holding states. It does not follow that because government, in protecting its own subjects, draws a certain line across the exercise of an individual right, and says, "Hitherto shalt thou go and no further," that it is bound also to impose the same restraint in favour of humanity at large. The interests of humanity at large have not been committed to its keeping. Its business is to protect *its own subjects*, and, having done this, it has, in its governmental capacity, accomplished every object for which it was instituted. It cannot take upon itself higher duties without doing far greater mischief than good. The commercial intercourse carried on between the people of these realms, and those of foreign realms, is a matter with which the state, as such, has nothing to do. Its interference, in relation to it, is a trespass beyond its legitimate sphere—tramples upon individual right—takes from man what belongs inalienably to man—in a word, does evil that good may come.

In the next place, were the regulation of commerce the proper business of government, it could not, we contend, be guided, in admitting or excluding articles of consumption, by considerations of the mode in which such articles have been produced. The principle, if good for the exclusion of slave-grown produce, is good to the whole extent to which it applies. Mark, then, the consequences upon which its advocates are driven! "That which is the product of proved injustice ought to be prohibited by government from entering into the market." Such is the naked principle. Is it, then, the business of government to trace the history of every article of commerce, before it sanctions its introduction into the country? If not, what is the special law which devolves upon it the duty in reference to the produce of slaves? If it be, what government on earth possesses adequate means for the accomplishment of its stupendous task? Why, the principle cannot be carried out even in reference to slave-grown produce. It is sought to be applied only to the article of sugar—simply forasmuch as its further application is purely impracticable. But were it sound, who can say within how narrow a range all commerce must at length be restricted? What article of trade, for instance, comes to us from Egypt, which is not tainted with injustice? What from Russia, which does not smell of oppression? What from America, which has not some tale to tell us of the cruelties inflicted on the producers of it? Would the imports from the East Indies pass muster? Is there, in a word, a single article we could admit from any quarter of the world with a safe conscience? And, be it remembered, that the same principle which we adopt in reference to our imports from other nations, they are equally bound to adopt in reference to their imports from ours. The duty is certainly reciprocal. Are they, then, to trace the history of all our manufactured fabrics? and ere they admit our cotton, woolen, and hardware goods into their markets, to determine the question, whether or no they are the product of oppressed and down-trodden men?

The general principle, then, we believe to be in theory unsound, and in practice impossible. We need not pursue the subject further. The expediency of resorting to it in the case of slave-produce was pointed out with great force by more than one speaker on Friday last. We are, therefore, the less anxious to touch upon this part of the question. It has been our single object to state our own views of the ultimate principle upon which the recommended interference of government, for the exclusion of the sugars of Brazil and Cuba from the British market, must necessarily proceed. If those views be correct, the interference is unwarrantable—if incorrect, we shall be thankful to any party who will be at the pains to set us right.

GROUND-BAIT FOR SILLY ELECTORS.

In the days of our childhood we were given to watch, with much interest, the piscatorial exploits of those youthful metropolitan anglers, who, in greater numbers than now, were then to be seen, patiently pursuing their vocation on the banks of the New River. The equipment of these juvenile disciples of old Isaac Walton, consisted of a rod and line, often of the most homely and unpretending make, a small green water can for the accommodation of hapless roach or dace, a few supernumerary hooks, a tin box of gentles, and a coarse bag, or in lieu of it, a pocket handkerchief, filled with ground-bait. The artistic precision which marked all the movements of the most knowing of this class, whilst it was sport for us, was death to many a fish. A handful of this ground-bait, which, amidst much rubbish which fishes could not eat, contained here and there a gentle which they could, was thrown into the river to make that particular district of it attractive to the race of fins and scales—and when it might be imagined that shoals were pressing forward to avail themselves of the windfall, and to seize upon the atom of food which had been mixed up with so much dust, the angler expertly let down his line with writhing gentle at the end of it, whereupon some unreflect-

ing fish was sure to bite, and be whipped out of the river in the twinkling of an eye.

Mr Macaulay reminds us of these New River anglers. He fishes for shy electors, and he uses a prodigious quantity of ground-bait—witness his recent letter to his constituents at Edinburgh.

It appears from the several documents laid before the public, that a considerable body of the electors at Edinburgh were not thoroughly satisfied with the conduct of their members in reference to the movement for freedom of trade. They went the length, therefore, of hinting their wish that Mr Macaulay and Mr Gibson Craig should vote with Mr Villiers for a total and immediate repeal of the corn laws, and they further appointed a committee upon whom they devolved the duty of providing that, at the next general election, candidates whose sentiments were in unison with their own on this head, should be forthcoming. Mr Macaulay's letter is an eloquent deprecation of this vigorous policy, as intolerant and suicidal. Coinciding with his constituents in the abstract principles which they enounce, he differs from them as to the course to be pursued by a member of parliament, in seeking the practical recognition of them by the legislature. They would bind him to demand nothing short of a free trade in corn. He would persuade them to take a fixed duty when they can get it. They wish him to sink the whig in the repealer. He would sink the repealer in the whig. He votes for Mr Villiers in opposition to a tory government—but he will not consent to support him against a whig administration, should that party be hereafter re-instated in office. He contends that his plan is by far the wisest one, and, he might have added, by far the most convenient to himself and his party. Whether his constituents will yield to the force of his arguments remains to be seen.

Mr Macaulay cites history in support of the instalment policy—and the instances he has selected to prove the expediency of compromise, strike us as peculiarly unfortunate. The repeal of the Test Act has not been followed by any fuller appreciation by the legislature of the principles of religious liberty—the enactment of the Reform Bill, in the shape in which it finally passed, has not given the people a more direct control over the House of Commons. In both cases we had all the inconvenience of a revolution, without the advantage of its results. Every great movement has, in like manner, been shorn of its glory, by the intrigues and concessions of political party. Years of agitation are spent in getting up a popular power strong enough to bear down every aristocratic barrier. At the moment when success seems inevitable, one of the two great political sections declares in favour of the people, but with large exceptions. The duty of making concessions to half-convinced friends is immediately preached by all the adherents of that section. The good-natured people give way. Some half measure is carried, the effects of which, just because it is a half measure, disappoint every one. Meanwhile, the object of party is gained. The principle is thrown overboard—public enthusiasm subsides—and the change originally sought is put farther off than ever from accomplishment.

Has it never suggested itself to Mr Macaulay, and his friends, the ex-whig ministers, that the exigent demands of men in earnest, in these days, have grown out of the too palpable failure of that very system of compromise which he so eloquently extols? If the country has, indeed, made such hopeful advances in the path of political amelioration, by acting upon the principle of taking whatever it may suit the designs of faction to offer—if it has been found that small reforms are the shortest cut to large ones—how comes it that all classes, save the class of legislators, have become disgusted with this much vaunted method? Surely, success would not have made the people quarrel with the means by which, avowedly, it was produced. Changes, it is true, have been wrought by this system—but then, the changes have invariably turned out to be rather nominal than real. Triumphs have been achieved, but they have proved, in the end, both expensive and barren. The people have at length learned the lesson, that neither of the political parties care a straw for their interests. They are shrewd enough to know that if a fixed duty would really be a step towards repeal, neither whigs nor tories would concede it—and they would be the silliest of all silly bodies, if they were to allow either section of the aristocracy to bestride once more the national will for the purpose of reining it up at the furthest practicable distance from the desired conclusion.

Mr Macaulay seems to fancy, that so long as his abstract opinions are in harmony with those of his constituents, it is a very hard thing if they will not allow him to use them as he sees fit. The gist of his whole letter, which is evidently written to gloss over his real meaning, amounts to this—"That it is extremely ungracious in his constituents to ask of him to stand by his professed principles, whatever may occur." He has no objection to do so now, and, therefore, he will vote with the member for Wolverhampton. But who can tell what futurity will bring forth? May not the whigs re-

turn to power, and propose a fixed duty? And is he to be precluded by his constituents from giving them his support? Mr Macaulay does not clothe his meaning in this plain every-day dress—indeed, it is probable he would deny that such is his meaning. But let his long letter be put into an alembic of common sense, and if any other practical signification can be extracted from it, we do him great injustice. "Exert yourselves," is his advice to electors, "in favour of your principles. Rouse public attention to them. Make all sacrifices for the promotion of them. Excite general expectation. Get up the steam. And when you are really strong, the political party with whom I act will be happy to come into power on your shoulders, and to serve themselves, and to delude you, by giving the country a moderate fixed duty. Will you throw away so fine a chance? And will you compel me to do so likewise?"

We shall see how the electors of Edinburgh reply to this question. We hope they are sufficiently awake, to beware of parliamentary ground-bait.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE held its usual weekly meeting, at Covent Garden theatre, on Wednesday evening last. The attendance was somewhat thinner than on preceding occasions. The chair, in the absence of the accustomed chairman, Mr Wilson, who is engaged in the South Lancashire election, was taken by Mr Bright, M.P., who, in a very energetic strain, proceeded to show how much the activity of commerce and manufacture surpassed the sluggish disposition of agriculture in adding to the prosperity and comfort of the labouring classes. Mr B. then pointed out the importance of the contest now going on in that division of Lancashire, and, by some most important statistics, showed the immense increase of value in agricultural property in that county, by the influence of machinery. One astounding fact mentioned was, that an estate in the neighbourhood of Manchester, which, in 1644, only sold for £300, in 1794 fetched £70,000, and that the township in which that estate is situated, in 1815, bore an annual value of £19,484, while in 1844 it was increased to £137,651. In a space of less than 200 years the value of that township had increased from £300 to £3,000,000. The Chairman having concluded by an eloquent appeal on behalf of "free trade all over the world," introduced Mr James Wilson as one of the most eminent political economists of the day. This gentleman, in an able speech, combated and demolished the fallacy that restrictions on commerce benefited the agriculturists, showing that the inevitable tendency of such laws was only to impoverish them with all other classes of the community. He alluded to Sir Robert Peel's measure on banking, and contended that the attempt to prevent fluctuations and the drain of bullion would be hopeless while the corn laws continue to cause sudden and irregular demands for foreign corn. Mr Turner, a tenant farmer, of Othry, in Somersetshire, denounced the corn laws as injurious to the enterprise and industry of the agricultural classes, and as preventing anything like fixity of tenure, in order to preserve political influence. The consequence is, that the farmer solely looks to present prices, and not to the steady amount of acreable produce. Mr John Burnet, independent minister, of Camberwell, having addressed the audience, the chairman stated that, after Wednesday next, the meetings would probably not be held so regularly, as the free trade bazaar might infringe upon them. The meeting broke up with three cheers for free trade.

BANQUET TO HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—On Wednesday the Lord Mayor entertained her Majesty's ministers and other distinguished guests at the Mansion-house. The dinner took place in the Egyptian Hall. Sir R. Peel was, more than is usual, vain-glorious of his successful policy.

EAST INDIA DIRECTOR.—A ballot was taken at the East India House on Wednesday, for a director in the room of the Hon. Hugh Lindsay, deceased. The election fell upon Mr John Clarmont Whiteman.

PHILANTHROPIC AND OTHER SOCIETIES.

The sixth anniversary festival of the Shipwrecked Fishermen's and Mariners' Society, was celebrated at the London Tavern. The Earl of Haddington took the chair, and upwards of 250 gentlemen sat down. The noble chairman adverted to the good which the society had already, during its brief existence, effected, as a cheering augury of its future operations. Since its first establishment, 482 widows, 1,722 orphans, 315 aged parents, 5,891 shipwrecked persons, and 502 distressed fishermen had been relieved—making a total of those who had experienced the benefits of the society, of 8,512 persons in distress.

A dinner in aid of the funds of the London Homœopathic Institution took place on Wednesday. The Earl of Wilton occupied the head of the table; at which about one hundred and forty gentlemen sat down. After the meal a report was read; it stated that the sum subscribed in the past year was £1,481; the total number of patients since the establishment of the institution has been 2,763; of which number £1,180 have been cured, 94 nearly cured, 178 much improved, 468 relieved, 364 were incurable, 165 just beginning their treatment, and 53 dead.

At the monthly meeting of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the secretary stated that the circulation of books and tracts between April, 1843, and April, 1844, had been 3,775,376.

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—On Thursday last the twentieth annual meeting of the above Society was held at the Hanover square Rooms. The auditory was very fashionable and numerous, and was composed principally of ladies, who appeared to take the warmest interest in the proceedings of the Society. Upon the platform, which was almost wholly dedicated to the speakers, were Lords Sandon and Dudley Stuart; Sir George Chetwynd, Bart.; W. A. Mackinnon, Esq., M.P.; Mr Richard Burgess, A.M., rector of Upper Chelsea; Mr Robert Montgomery, A.M. Oxon, of Percy chapel; R. E. Broughton, Esq.; Captain Boyce, R.N.; Stephen Bancroft, Esq.; Thomas Butts, jun., Esq.; John Wilks, Esq., &c. At two o'clock the chair was taken by Lord Sandon, who congratulated the friends of humanity upon the progress this Society was making, and announced the receipt of a letter from that distinguished nobleman the Earl of Carnarvon, in which he expressed his regret at his inability to be present at the meeting, as he had taken the deepest interest in the Society since its formation, twenty years ago, and inclosing a donation of £10 towards its support. Mr Henry Thomas, the secretary, then read the report of the Society, which was very elaborate and satisfactory. It entered into a detail of the most serious offences of cruelty to animals which had been successfully prosecuted, and the guilty parties punished, through the instrumentality solely of this Society. The most prominent of these were the recent inhuman feats of riding a poney for a wager from Bedford to London and back again, and a mare to Windsor and back again to London, in a given time; in both of which cases the poor animals sank under the severity of their fatigue, and died in the most excruciating agony. The report went into a detail of the number of auxiliary societies which had been lately established, and concluded by enumerating several handsome bequests which had been left to it for the purpose of supporting and extending, as far as possible, the humane principles on which it is founded. Mr Burgess, in moving the adoption of the report, advocated the propriety of publishing books on the subject of humanity to animals, and introducing them into schools as a necessary part of the education of youth. The Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge had, within the last two years, published a great many prints on the subject of cruelty to animals, with little descriptions attached to them, which had been sold for threefarthings each, so that rooms could be papered with these prints at a cost less than sixpence a yard. He had set an example by papering the whole of his nursery with these prints, and he particularly recommended this moral kind of upholstery to all who wished to improve the disposition of children, and imbue their minds with the sublime principle of Christian humanity. He alluded to the case of cruelty which had been lately exercised by a clergyman, and stated upon good authority that the offender was not in his right mind. Captain Bogue, R.N., seconded the motion for the adoption of the report. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Mr Robert Montgomery, Lord Dudley Stuart, Mr Broughton (one of the metropolitan police magistrates), Mr Bancroft (of Devonshire), Mr Mackinnon, Mr Ward, Mr Butts, &c. &c. Two prizes, of five sovereigns and two sovereigns, were awarded to Messrs Hudson and Day, pupils of the Bluecoat school, for the first and second best essays upon the subject of "Cruelty to animals," according to general custom, in pursuance of a bequest of a lady who was a friend to the Society. Thanks having been voted to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

ABORIGINES PROTECTION SOCIETY.—The seventh annual general meeting of the members of the above society was held on Monday at Crosby hall, Bishopsgate street. The Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., was in the chair, and amongst the gentlemen on the platform were the Rev. Dr Burnett, Dr Hodgkin, M.D., several members of the society of friends, and M. Cadotte, the interpreter to the party of Ojibbeway Indians recently exhibited in London. From the report, the reading of which occupied upwards of an hour, it appeared that an extensive correspondence had been kept up during the past year with several parts of the globe, for the purpose of gaining information as to the state of the native tribes. The report then entered into a detailed account of the condition of the aboriginal inhabitants of Hudson's Bay, the shores of the Pacific, Guiana, and the United States, where, from the oppression of the Europeans, they were reduced to a state of misery and degradation. The Indians were found extremely tractable, and not averse to civilisation, but hitherto the cruelties and impositions of the settlers had taught them more to fear and hate, than to love the white people. Persecution and injustice to a great degree was suffered by the New Zealanders; but the committee had exerted themselves with the colonial authorities, and were not without hope that they would ultimately receive the protection of government. The receipts during the year amounted to £178, leaving a balance against the society of £11. The report having been adopted, the meeting separated.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

The second anniversary meeting of the National Temperance Society was held yesterday evening in Exeter hall, under the presidency of Mr G. W. Alexander. The great room was densely crowded in every part; and on the platform, in addition to Mr Rotch, Mr Sherman, Mr J. J. Gurney, Mr Willis

of Dunstable, and Mr J. S. Buckingham, there was a most numerous and influential attendance of the leading members of the Society of Friends, anxious for, and devoted to, the cause in promotion of which the meeting had been assembled. We also noticed on the platform several non-commissioned officers and privates of the household brigades, who appeared to take a deep interest in the proceedings of the evening.

The CHAIRMAN having briefly opened the business of the meeting, and offered to it an apology for his inability adequately to fulfil the duties of the chair,

The SECRETARY (Mr Theodore Compton) proceeded to read the report for the past year, which stated:—

That the committee desired to express their devout thankfulness for the success which had attended the efforts of the friends of temperance during the past year. The charm of novelty which at first attracted the curious, the excitement of public meetings, and the opposition which every new system meets with, had now in a great measure ceased to operate. Whatever progress was now made in the temperance reformation mainly depended upon rational conviction and beneficial experience; and, if less conspicuous than in times past, it was more durable and more substantial. The evils of intemperance, though diminished in extent, were the same dreadful curse wherever they existed; and the committee, judging from past experience, declared that nothing but total abstinence from intoxicating liquor could prove effectual either for the cure or prevention of intemperance in the mass of the people. They were further fully convinced that the spirit of the gospel required the entire abolition of things which, being needless in themselves, produced, year after year, and day after day, woe and misery, both temporal and eternal. The report then proceeded to state "that, in the United States of America, the work of reformation was making steady progress, and it was computed that one in four of the population, or about four millions, abstained from all intoxicating drinks, while another fourth had also nearly laid aside the wine cup. In Montreal the principal merchants were found coming nobly forward in the temperance cause, giving the preference to vessels not carrying spirits, recommending the temperance marine assurances, and petitioning the government and magistracy to withhold the granting of licences for the sale of intoxicating liquors. At St John's, Newfoundland, where a few years ago drunkenness was proverbial among the fishermen, and the poorer classes generally, it was now unknown. In the West Indies much good had been effected by the intervention of the society, and a letter received from Barbice, bearing date the 16th of February of the present year, stated—'In few places has teetotalism achieved greater triumphs than in this hot and distant land. There are now in Barbice 2,000 staunch teetotalers, and every day is adding to their number. We have already shut many grog shops, and many more will ere long be closed, and we have demonstrated that the European constitution can stand better in this deadly climate without any intoxicating drinks whatever.' In Hayti, the advance of the society has been most signal. Reports from St Kitt's announced a large accession of members, and information had been received from Jamaica, the Mauritius, Montserrat, Antigua, Tobago, &c., from which it appeared that the results of the system were the same whether in hot or cold climates—whether adopted by the white man or the negro." It was further stated in the report, that "the islands in the Pacific ocean were also exhibiting some of the benefits of the temperance movement. In the Sandwich islands and New Zealand especially, practical proofs had been given of real sincerity in the cause. A society had been established at Hong Kong, which it was trusted would form the nucleus of a vast temperance operation in that great empire, and would hasten the downfall of opium as well as alcohol. In India, temperance societies had been established at Bombay, Madras, Surat, Trichinopoly, and other places, and at Arcot, owing to the recent restrictions on the part of the civil authorities, neither brandy, wine, nor beer could be had in any of the shops. Returning to the result of the society's labours on the continent of Europe, the report observed that, in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Bavaria, temperance societies had been established, and were proceeding with success. In Germany, at Osnaburg, there existed a temperance society, consisting of several thousand members. In France, however, it was stated that but little was doing, and it was feared that intemperance was rather on the increase in Holland and other parts of the continent of Europe. With respect to Ireland, the report stated that it, of all others, might now be distinguished as the land of temperance. The results of the system were obvious to the most indifferent visitor, and were practically felt in the extending commerce of the country, its empty gaols, and the improved domestic, as well as moral, condition of its peasantry. From communications recently received from Mr Theobald Mathew, it appeared that the number of persons going back to their old habits was very small. In reference to Scotland, it was stated, that the societies established there generally kept up their numbers, and in some places a considerable improvement had been witnessed. North Wales still was conspicuous for the large proportion of the members of temperance societies: a circumstance, it was suggested, that was probably owing to the fact that a large proportion of the ministers of religion set an example of abstinence. In England the influence and progress of temperance societies might be shown by the number of their members; but it was extremely difficult, if not impracticable, to obtain anything like accuracy in such an estimate; for not only were the drinking habits of the middle and upper classes greatly modified where they continued to exist, but a very considerable number of persons totally abstained from the use of intoxicating liquors, who had not connected themselves with the Temperance Society. Returns which had been received, and which included about 250 places, embracing a population of 1,830,877, however, showed, that out of that number, 96,034 were members of Temperance societies; 9,759 being reclaimed drunkards. The returns further showed that there were 425 ministers of religion, and 52 medical men, members of the society; and that of breweries and public houses, there were 9,651 open, and 493 closed. Applying this estimate to the whole kingdom, would give a total number of teetotalers of the whole of Great Britain, of about 1,200,000, and of reformed drunkards, 120,000. It might," added the report, "be safely asserted, that the number of mem-

bers of Total Abstinence societies in Great Britain was not less than 1,000,000."

The details of the report were received with loud and general cheers.

Mr SHERMAN, in an eloquent speech, moved the first resolution, which was to the effect—

"That, whilst this meeting regards with thankfulness the gratifying progress of the temperance cause both at home and abroad, as detailed in the report now read, it at the same time feels bound to express the conviction that the efforts hitherto made have exposed a mass of evil yet remaining, which calls loudly for renewed and increased exertions on the part of British philanthropists."

The resolution, which was seconded by Dr J. B. THOMSON, of New Zealand, and supported by Professor WRIGHT, of Philadelphia, passed unanimously.

The next resolution,

"That the crime, ignorance, poverty, and disease of the land being chiefly attributable to intoxicating drinks, this meeting would rejoice to find the public and the legislature prepared to refuse a legal sanction to the making and sale of these liquors,"

was moved by Mr J. S. BUCKINGHAM, and seconded by Mr B. ROTCH, both of whom attributed the increase of crime in this country to the prevalence of habits of intemperance, and the last-named gentleman quoted the opinions of Mr Baron Alderson, expressed on the northern circuit, in corroboration of the assertion. The resolution, which was supported by Mr W. WILLIS, also passed unanimously.

Mr CHARLES STOVEL moved the third resolution, which was to the effect—

"That, considering the indescribable evils produced by the use of intoxicating drinks, this meeting calls upon all who love their fellow-creatures to renounce even the moderate use of them as dangerous in practice and destructive in example."

Mr S. BOWLEY, of Gloucester, seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mr W. MARTIN, of Cork, and carried by acclamation.

The last resolution, which was

"That accurate statistical returns of the extent and evils of intemperance in every part of the kingdom are absolutely necessary to make out a complete case for the purpose of parliamentary application, and this meeting pledges itself to use every effort and influence to obtain such returns,"

was proposed by Mr JOHN JOSEPH GURNEY in an elaborate speech, in which the speaker took a review of the moral, the religious, and the physical bearings of the question, and was loudly cheered throughout.

The resolution having been seconded by Mr PRICE, passed, like its predecessors, without opposition; and a collection having been made, and thanks voted to the chairman, the meeting broke up at a late hour.

MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS.—The mortality tables for the week ending Saturday, May 11, present a satisfactory statement of the health of the metropolis. It appears that the deaths during the week were 812, out of a population estimated at 2,007,500. The weekly average at a corresponding period of the last five years was 883, whilst the number of deaths throughout the last five years has averaged per week 946. The most apparent decrease is in the number of deaths caused by diseases of the respiratory organs—241 this week to an average of 269 in corresponding weeks of the years 1839 to 1843. This may be taken as a proof of the mildness of the present season, as may also perhaps the number of deaths recorded as occurring from "old age," and which were last week 37, whilst at corresponding periods they have averaged 64.

THREATENING LETTERS.—At Bow street Police office, on Friday, William Toole, a middle-aged man, was charged with sending letters to Sir Robert Peel and Lord Eliot, complaining of distress, and unequivocally hinting that he would assassinate them. He admitted the offence; pleaded that he was maddened by distress; and produced letters from Mr Recorder Shaw and other most respectable persons in Ireland, testifying to his good character while in the police force of that country. In default of bail for twelve months, he was committed to prison.

SWINDLING.—Steps are being taken in London, under the instructions of the Lord Mayor, which are not unlikely to lead to the detection of an extensive gang of swindlers located in the metropolis, who have been sending printed communications to various parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland, under the name of different fictitious firms (the circulars being the same in all cases except the signatures) for the purpose of obtaining money, or securities for money, from inexperienced, or incautious, or distressed tradesmen.

THE MERCY OF THE CROWN.—The mercy of the crown to Mary Furlay is the commutation of her sentence to transportation for seven years! The same paper that announces this act of grace states that a subscription has been raised for the sisters tried for the murder of a father and an aunt, and acquitted against the strongest evidence, including a confession. They are to be sent abroad for their ease and comfort, and have the advantage of a bounty which never would have been extended to them but for the crimes with which they are charged, and the odium arising from the general belief that they are guilty. Not so the unfortunate Mary Furlay. She goes out a convict, to undergo the punishment next to death, for an act of despair, to which she was driven by the cruellest misery that the human mind can suffer—the anguish of a mother seeing her children perishing of want.—*Examiner.*

FATAL OCCURRENCE AT LONDON BRIDGE.—About nine o'clock on Sunday night, a boat containing eleven boys and three girls, was proceeding under the charge of a young waterman named Williamson, from London bridge wharf to the Custom house. The boat had not reached ten or a dozen yards from the stairs, before she came athwart the tide, which was running down very fast, and she was carried with great violence against the bows of the Diamond steamer, moored off Fresh wharf. The boat was upset, and the whole of her freight precipitated into the water. Assistance, however, was at hand, and all but three were, with some difficulty, saved. The deceased were two girls of the respective ages of 16 and 18, and a boy about eight years old. Their bodies have not yet been recovered.

PROVINCIAL.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE ELECTION.

Active preparations are making by both parties for the South Lancashire election. The nomination is fixed for Friday the 24th, and the polling will, it is presumed, take place on Whit Monday and Tuesday.

The friends of Mr William Brown, the free-trade candidate, have held various meetings. One took place at Manchester Free-trade hall, on Tuesday: it was professedly a meeting of the electors residing in the Manchester district, to receive a deputation from the Anti-corn-law League; but those present appear to have been all of one mind. Mr Cobden delivered a long speech, in which he exhorted the electors to fix their regard on free-trade objects alone, irrespectively of party. He also gave an account of the candidate.

Mr William Brown has built up one of the most gigantic commercial establishments that ever existed in this or any other country; and he has, in the various ramifications of his business, probably contributed more to the facilities of commerce, to the interchange of the productions of this district, than any other merchant, or probably any half-dozen merchants, in England. Next to the reverence we have for aristocratic origin is probably the homage which, in England, we wisely or unwisely pay to wealth. On the score of wealth, Mr Brown must be acceptable to the most money-loving among us. * * * It has been alleged that Mr Brown is not a British-born subject. I am happy to tell you, from the highest authority, that Mr Brown was born in the county of Kilkenny, in Ireland; that his family were extensively connected with the linen trade there; that Mr Brown came to England, and was educated; that he left England in 1800, and went to America; that he returned from America in 1808, since which time he has been a resident in Liverpool. And, as the owner of large estates in this country, he has given that proof of his naturalisation which will both be a satisfaction to our opponents on the score of citizenship, and will also recommend him as being an extensive landowner. There has been also, I believe, some other allusion made to Mr Brown—but we really don't talk about religious subjects here—but Mr Brown, I may tell you in brief, is a churchman. * * * Mr Brown has in his hands one-sixth part of the trade between this country and the United States. There is hardly a breeze can blow, or a tide can roll, into the Mersey that does not bring a ship freighted with cotton, or some other costly commodity, destined to fill the warehouses of Mr Brown; and there is scarcely a railway or a canal in the kingdom that does not bear some of his produce on its way to be shipped to China or some other part of the world. Mr Cobden added that the candidate had not been known as a party politician, but rather as a moderator of party; and that he had of old been the assailant of monopolies, even when they appeared to be for his own interest.

He mentioned a few facts relative to the registration:—

The registration lists of this county have been diligently attended to during the last three years to my knowledge; and there is upon the cards the fairest prospects of success, if the friends of free trade will only exert themselves during the next fortnight. It is true we have in this, as in every county, a large number, 3,000 or 4,000 tenants-at-will, occupying £50 tenancies, but for whom we should have a large majority of the real *bona fide* freeholders of the county. Of that we are quite sure, without going to a poll. But as many of these £50 tenants are not allowed to choose for themselves, it devolves on the freeholders in the towns and the country districts to counterbalance the undue influence of the landlords by increased efforts among those who are independent and can vote as they please [applause]. If due diligence be used, I have no doubt this battle will be won [great applause].

MR COBDEN also made some apt allusions to the late debates on the Factories bill, and strongly recommended mill-owners voluntarily to reduce the hours of labour. The following incident is worthy of being preserved:—

After Lord Ashley had carried his first motion by a majority, Sir James Graham was speaking against it with a view to reverse that decision; he tried every kind of argument, and at last, at the conclusion of his speech, he turned round very significantly indeed, with a look which he can so well put on, to the squire behind him, and he said, "Let honourable gentlemen beware what they do; this restrictive system of ours is an artificial system—it is like a house of cards—if you touch one, the rest will fall" [cheers and laughter]. I was sitting behind a rabid protectionist, a member for a rural district, and tapping him on the shoulder, said, "Do you understand that?" "Yes, I do" [applause and laughter]. Translated into plain common sense and plain English, what did Sir J. Graham's admission amount to? This—if you pass a ten hours bill, the corn laws, and the sugar laws, and the coffee laws cannot be maintained.

A resolution to support Mr Brown passed unanimously.

Mr Brown was personally introduced to a meeting of reformers and county electors at Liverpool, on Wednesday. He made a speech and answered several questions, with a manner chiefly distinguished by hearty frankness. Free trade was his great topic; but he also avowed himself disposed to mitigate the stringency of the poor-law; to support the admission of Jews to the legislature; to abolish the income-tax, as inquisitorial, but to maintain the property-tax, if other taxes were lightened, since the government must have money. He was very cordially received.

On Friday Mr Brown visited Wigan, Bolton, and Bury, at each of which places, says the *Manchester Times*, he was received more in the character a popular member of parliament than as a candidate for the suffrages of the electors. His progress throughout the tour was cheering and triumphant, and men of all political shades of opinion assembled to greet him, and raise over his head the banner of free trade. In the evening he addressed a meeting at the Albion hotel, Manchester.

In addition to the above sketch of Mr Brown by Mr Cobden, the *Morning Chronicle* gives the following interesting particulars:—

In 1836 the transactions of Mr Brown's house amounted to £10,000,000. In 1837 the American banks, all over the union, went down one after another, and many together, almost with a universal crash. They fell, and their fall involved the Messrs Brown. The latter were not crushed, but they were bruised. American commerce was at that time a towering pile in course of erection; bank credit was the scaffolding. It fell, and the Browns were not far from being smothered in the rubbish. Had they possessed less than the strength of giants, they could not have extricated themselves, and, giants as they were, they would have struggled in vain, had not a powerful hand assisted them. The British government saw, and looked with apprehension as it saw, the struggles of this gigantic establishment. From Inverness to Penance there was not a single town but would have felt its fall. In Sheffield and Birmingham, and the towns surrounding them, and in Manchester, Leeds, and all the great factory communities, a large number of the merchants and employers, and, as a matter of course, every man and woman employed, were less or more involved in the fate of this establishment. The government of that day saw the imminent peril, and so did the directors of the bank of England; the latter met, and passed a resolution to give assistance to Mr Brown to the extent of two millions. The exact sum which he was authorised to draw—a loan of money to an individual unparalleled in the history of the world—was £1,969,000. Of this loan he took advantage, to the extent of between eight and nine hundred thousand pounds, which he has since repaid, besides clearing off all other embarrassments. What Mr Brown's personal fortune may be now, it is not necessary to inquire. It is ample—probably not less than the sum which he was authorised to borrow from the bank of England in 1837, probably more.

The friends of Mr Entwistle, the conservative candidate, have also held meetings; and there was one on Tuesday morning at Newton-in-the-Willows. His address to the electors indicated generally an adherence to the Peel policy. At this meeting, in reply to divers questions, he avowed himself an opponent of the Poor-law; and said that he should be a convert to a ten-hours bill if he were satisfied that the working-classes were willing to stand the risk of a reduction in wages. Mr Entwistle is a barrister, resident at Rusholme, a suburb of Manchester, and son-in-law of Mr Edward Lloyd, the Manchester banker.

As regards the "ways and means," the free traders have evinced a spirit that shows them sanguine of the result, for the guarantee fund has already reached £13,000, and that for the Manchester district of the county alone! The register contains upwards of 18,000 electors. Of these 11,928 are freeholders; upwards of 3,000 tenants at will of £50 and upwards; and between 2,000 and 3,000 leaseholders. The tenants at will are the class upon whom the influence of the county aristocracy will be brought to bear with most effect. The conservative party are anything but idle. The powerful influence of the Earl of Derby is to be exerted in Mr Entwistle's favour. Lord Stanley has subscribed £100, and Lord Francis Egerton £200 towards the expenses, and £2,700 has been raised by the party. The *Manchester Guardian* relates the following incident:—

It is rather an amusing, and certainly a novel, feature connected with the approaching contest, that, before Mr Brown and Mr Entwistle were selected, each party sent a deputation to solicit the services of the same gentleman, Mr Houghton, the son of Sir H. B. Houghton, of Bold, near Warrington, who, however, respectfully declined both invitations; otherwise the electors of South Lancashire might have witnessed the extraordinary and hitherto unheard-of fact, of the return of a member of parliament who pleased everybody.

LAUNCESTON ELECTION.—Sir Henry Hardinge, the governor-general of India, has issued his address to the electors of Launceston, announcing his retirement from the representation of that borough. Admiral Bowles has offered himself as a candidate, and has personally addressed the conservative electors.

LEEDS FREE-TRADE MEMORIAL.—This document is now complete, and has been forwarded to the borough members, Mr W. Beckett and Mr W. Aldam. It contains a request that they will support Mr Villiers's motion for the entire and immediate repeal of the corn laws. The result of the canvass is the recorded opinion of a large majority of the constituency in favour of free trade. The total number of electors is 4,971; the number who have signed 2,746, giving a majority of 521.—*Leeds Times*.

THE COLLIERS' STRIKE.—The bulk of the north country colliers still remain out, although many of them suffer much from privation. The stock of coals is fast decreasing, and but little is worked. The prospects of any arrangement between the coalowners and their workpeople seems as distant as ever.

TREMADOC.—BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL.—We feel happy to announce that great exertions have been made in this town and neighbourhood, to establish a school upon liberal principles. Unexpected support has been shown to the cause. Alterations have been made in the school-room already built, through the charitable exertions of John Williams, Esq., Tyhwn-ir-bwlch, to whom thanks are due. On Thursday last the school was opened, when a meeting was held at the school-room, J. Williams, Esq., presiding. A large number of parents, heads of families, and others, were present, who were addressed by several dissenting ministers, on the duty of parents towards their children, children towards their parents, the nature of education, &c. The audience then went in procession through the town and port, and returned to the school-room, where tea and cake were served to the children. The school is to be conducted by Mr Morris Davies, who, we have no doubt, will give general satisfaction.—*Carnarvon Herald*.

INCENDIARISM IN SUFFOLK AND ESSEX.—The continued recurrence of agrarian outrage in these coun-

ties is an evil so imminent and so destructive as to demand the most prompt and efficient preventive measures on the part of the government. Against this systematic and insane crusade upon agricultural property, the local authorities cannot be expected to oppose any adequate check. The magistracy have not the means of repression at command. There is a rural police in one division of the county, and a local constabulary in the other; but what is a single constable to eight square miles of country in a rural district? The principal farmers, in most cases, retain private watchmen, at an expense they can ill afford to bear; but with all these precautions, crime is nightly committed, and the criminal is rarely detected. Innumerable arrests have taken place, under circumstances of apparently well-founded suspicion; the parties have been examined, liberal rewards have been offered for information, but confessions have not been elicited, nor convictions obtained. The farmers are paralysed: they appeal to the magistrates for protection, but the magistrates have no power to assist them. Even the insurance offices begin to be alarmed: many of the directors decline to effect policies for the insurance of farm buildings and stock, unless on the payment of what are termed "hazardous" premiums.—*Times*. [The *Times* gives details of fires which have lately taken place. On the 10th inst. a straw stack, on the premises of Mr J. Baldry, at Lidgate, was totally consumed. £500 of property was destroyed by fire, on the premises of Mr T. Brackenbury, of Shouldham Thorpe. Other destructive fires have taken place at Great Turf, Wethersfield, Snarehill, near Thetford, Garboldisham, and Bradfield. On Thursday night property, consisting of two barns, the stables, a long range of sheds, coach-houses, granary, and two large stacks of hay, were in the occupation of Mr Alexander Fletcher, minister of Finsbury chapel, was totally consumed. The premises destroyed cover three quarters of an acre of ground. Mr Fletcher is insured in the Essex Equitable. Essex, it should be recollected, has more "church" than any other county in England.]

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT NAWORTH CASTLE, CORNWALL.—About two o'clock on Saturday afternoon last, a most violent fire broke out at Naworth Castle, one of the seats of the Earl of Carlisle, when an express was immediately sent off to Carlisle for the fire engines and other assistance. The engines were almost instantly sent off by the railway, and arrived at the scene of destruction about six o'clock. The progress and devastation of the fire in the mean time had proved so rapid and violent, that on the arrival of the engines the roofs of the principal building had fallen in with the exception of the larger tower, which the uncontrollable element had not reached. The exertions of the firemen were directed to the preservation of this tower, which, after the most venturesome and arduous work, was at last with great difficulty saved. This specimen of a feudal residence consisted of two lofty towers, connected by other masses of masonry, inclosing a quadrangular court. Up to the time of its destruction by fire, on Saturday last, it was kept up in the style in which it appeared when occupied by Lord William Howard, the "Belted Will" of "the Lay of the Last Minstrel." The loss sustained by this fire cannot as yet be actually ascertained, but it will be enormous. No lives were lost.

EXECUTION OF AN INNOCENT PERSON FOR MURDER AT IPSWICH.—The *Ipswich Express* contains the particulars of a strange case, of which the following are the principal facts:—In 1836, at the Suffolk Lent assizes, a man named Chalker, a French polisher, of Ipswich, was found guilty and sentenced to death by Lord Abinger, for the murder of a gamekeeper in Hentlesham wood. The evidence was entirely of a circumstantial nature. The prisoner was convicted on a Friday, and, notwithstanding strenuous efforts made for a respite, executed on the following Monday. A short time since, a young man named William Towns, a native of Poole, a private in the 21st regiment of fusiliers, stationed in the East Indies, became so miserable, that he told his comrades he intended to destroy himself. On asking his reason, he informed them that he was the murderer of Miss Lloyd's gamekeeper, and was present at the execution of Chalker the supposed murderer. The thought of the deed haunted him day and night, and rendered life unbearable. The particulars of the confession were communicated to Colonel Dean, who has forwarded a full account thereof to Sir Joshua Rowley, Bart., of Stoke-by-Nayland, and had Towns put in irons previous to forwarding him to this country.

IRELAND.

DISSOLUTION OF THE IRISH CONSERVATIVE SOCIETY.—The "Irish Metropolitan Conservative Society," which has taken so prominent a part in political conflicts in Dublin for five or six years past, has given up the ghost. Its formal dissolution took place on Monday night, the 13th inst., at a special meeting convened for the purpose at the fine mansion in Dawson-street, purchased by the society in its days of prosperity. When in 1841, says the *Globe*, Sir Robert Peel succeeded to the government, the society numbered 1,200 members. A fine mansion, situated in Dawson street, Dublin—purchased from their flourishing funds in the days when "hope told a flattering tale"—was its head quarters. Plans for winning back, at any price, parliamentary seats, and thus obtaining power, place, and profit, were there concocted. The days of "glorious memory" were recalled, and future "Protestant ascendancy" anticipated. Memory then reveled in the recollection of the past, and hope rejoiced in bright visions of future glories. Alas! that so bright a morning should usher in so dark a day—that a commencement so joyous should terminate in calamity!

THE LAND COMMISSION.—It is understood that the short report, which it was stated some time since was in course of preparation, is now actually drawn up, and will be laid before parliament in the course of the present session.—*Times*.

THE SPY SYSTEM.—The ramifications of this system, says the *Chronicle*, extend to various counties, and new disclosures are made almost daily. The inquiries respecting the police villanies in the King's County is still in progress at Dublin Castle, and more policemen are said to be implicated. The *Tipperary Vindicator* of Saturday contains the following:—"Further evidence is forthcoming of the nefarious plot concocted to entrap the unsuspecting people in the meshes of crime. The charges are not confined to Ogle, Lyndon, and Parker—others are said to be deeply implicated in the foul and hideous conspiracy, to get up prosecutions, and trade on the liberties and lives of the innocent. It is confidently stated that since the accession of the present government to office a great portion of the police force has become tainted with the morbid appetite of transporting and hanging inoffensive men for rewards."

THE STATE TRIALS.—Trinity term opens to-day, when it is probable that the court will be unanimous in refusing a new trial, unless in the case of Mr Tierney. In that event, the argument on the motion for arrest of judgment would be in progress at the close of the next week. It is understood that chief justice Pennefather has prepared a very elaborate judgment, stating at length his reasons for refusing a new trial, and defending those portions of his charge to the jury which have been so strongly animadverted upon by the counsel for the traversers.

EXECUTION.—On Wednesday last John Cordery underwent the extreme penalty of the law, in front of Carrickfergus gaol, for the murder of Sergeant Dodd, of the 66th regiment.

SCOTLAND.

KILMARNOCK BURGH ELECTION. (From the *Glasgow Saturday Post*.)

Public attention in this quarter will be for a time attracted to the approaching election for the Kilmarnock district of burghs; and, from the circumstance of their being scattered over four counties, viz., Kilmarnock in Ayrshire, Rutherglen in Lanarkshire, Dumbarton in the county of that name, and Renfrew and Port Glasgow in Renfrewshire, the excitement of whatever contest takes place will be shared in by a numerous population.

The first move for filling up the vacancy was made by the Edinburgh branch of the Complete Suffrage Association, who early in the week issued an address, and despatched a deputation from their body, along with Mr Vincent, to Kilmarnock, for the purpose of endeavouring to secure the return of that gentleman. Mr Vincent arrived in Kilmarnock on Tuesday, and, having addressed a numerous body of the electors and inhabitants that evening, he next morning issued an address, and has since that been engaged with his canvass.

It is rather an obstacle to the success of Mr Vincent, or any new candidate in the liberal interest, that, when Mr Johnstone was expected to resign at the opening of the present session, the more zealous of the free traders looked forward to Mr Bouverie, second son of Lord Radnor, and made exertions for his being elected Mr Johnstone's successor. Some interest was also then made in behalf of Mr Robertson, a gentleman from Aberdeen, who had for some time officiated as editor of the *Westminster Review*, and who had written some clever articles in behalf of the Free church. These gentlemen are now all three formally on the field, and to all appearance resolved to go to the poll. The whole of them will be opposed to the policy of the present ministry; and we shall regret if they create a division in the liberal interest, which will permit a tory to come forward and snatch the victory from them all three.

The addresses of all the three candidates will be seen in our advertising columns; and, in addition, a more full exposition of their political principles will be found in our report of the proceedings at Rutherglen last night, where they respectively addressed the electors. Mr Robertson, it will be observed from our report, boggles completely at the extension of the suffrage to anything like just principles. Mr Bouverie regards that important question as but an abstract matter in the mean time, and declines expressing himself fully and candidly as he ought to do on the subject. We should have expected other things from a son of Lord Radnor, and we are sure, if the honourable gentleman would take the manly course of following up his excellent father's principles unreservedly, there would be but little division amongst the liberal electors in the Kilmarnock district at this time.

In addition to the addresses of the various candidates, we have also to direct the attention of our readers to a short address from the council of the Complete Suffrage Association at Birmingham, which appears in this sheet. From that address it will be observed, that Mr Sturge, and the faithful adherents to the people's cause who associate with him, earnestly urge the electors of the district not to vote for any candidate who refuses to pledge himself to the support of Mr Crawford's movement for stopping the supplies. To adopt the course recommended by Mr Sturge, is but to adopt the first principles of good government under all circumstances. To refuse payment when you are refused obedience is the first act of every employer. When we therefore meet with a candidate professing his readiness to redress the people's grievances, particularly the grievance of forestalling their food, and who will not at the same time stop the supplies, or take any legal course likely to disarm the monopolists, we can have no faith whatever in his professions, and we should think

every honest independent voter in the Kilmarnock district will not only entertain a similar opinion, but be ready to act on it.

KILMARNOCK.—ARRIVAL OF HENRY VINCENT.—On Tuesday morning, the inhabitants of this town had their attention directed to the forthcoming election, by the appearance of a bill, headed, "Complete Suffrage, Free Trade, Separation of Church and State. Electors! a candidate upon these principles has arrived!!" Considerable interest was excited, and great curiosity manifested to hear the name of the candidate, when about noon an address to the electors appeared, signed "Henry Vincent." Mr Vincent (whose name is so well known throughout the United Kingdom, as the persevering friend of improvement, and who is allied with the complete suffrage movement, headed by Joseph Sturge, and who is also known as an ardent advocate of commercial and religious freedom) offers himself upon the principles of complete suffrage, perfect free trade, separation of church and state, abolition of the laws of primogeniture and entail, and a general revision and reduction of taxation. At night Mr Vincent was introduced to the electors at the Croft Hall, and received a hearty reception. Mr Vincent spoke above two hours and a half, in exposition of his views, and was rapturously applauded. He stated that as he was the first candidate in the field, he would not be charged with promoting division. He strongly urged the electors as to the importance of electing thorough-going men to do their work—men in earnest—and unconnected with the aristocracy. Mr Vincent was accompanied by John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch, a landed proprietor of the county, and by the Rev. Mr Robertson of Edinburgh, both of whom addressed the electors, and spoke of Mr Vincent in the highest terms, and strongly recommended him to the choice of the constituency. On Wednesday night, Mr Vincent addressed several thousands of people from a window in the town. His reception was most enthusiastic. He stated that he was still the only candidate in the field, and he earnestly hoped that no division would be created among the reformers. He called for a show of hands, as an expression of feeling in his favour, when every hand in the vast assembly was uplifted amidst loud cheers. It is impossible just yet to speak of the result, but certain it is that Mr Vincent is amazingly popular; and, since the appearance of Mr Bouverie (whose address gave great dissatisfaction), and a Mr Robertson, his influence seems on the increase. "Certainly," say the people of Kilmarnock, "as Vincent was first in the field, and is the most popular candidate, other reformers cannot call upon him to retire."

MEETING OF THE THREE CANDIDATES.

A meeting of the electors of Rutherglen was held on Friday, about half-past two o'clock, in the Town hall at Rutherglen, called by the friends of Mr E. P. Bouverie, for the purpose of hearing that gentleman explain his political sentiments. The meeting, which was not large at first, became of increased interest when it was made known that the other two opposing candidates, Mr Henry Vincent and Mr Robertson, were in the town, and intended to be present.

Mr Thomas Steele was called to the chair, and briefly introduced Mr Bouverie.

Mr BOUVÉRIE then, at some length, detailed his political creed. He was in favour of a repeal of the corn laws, of free trade generally, and vote by ballot. He strongly objected to anything in the shape of religious tests, and did not approve of the principle of private patronage.

Mr JOHN RODGER understood that there were now three candidates in the field for the representation of these burghs, and as it was a great matter for reformers to be united in such a matter as this, he put it to Mr Bouverie whether he would submit to a canvass along with Mr Vincent of the liberal electors, and abide by their decision as to which of them should keep the field against tory opposition.

Mr BOUVÉRIE said it was certainly his wish to unite the liberal interest on behalf of the liberal cause, which was the chief object he had at heart, and he had no objection to abide by such a decision as that to which Mr Rodger referred, but he did not see that in this election there was time for such a course, for if the law was the same here as in England, the election would have to take place in eight days from the time of issuing the writ. Now he understood the writ had been received, and in all probability the election would take place at least in four days.

Mr RODGER said, so far as Mr Bouverie's views in regard to monopolies went, he believed all parties present went along with him, but here was a case where a candidate—viz., Mr Henry Vincent, was in the field before Mr Bouverie, was also an anti-monopolist, and he wished to see whether the party with whom Mr B. acted—the Anti-corn-law League—would go as far in reference to the parent of all monopolies, the monopoly of legislation, as Mr Vincent. He put the question because he looked upon reform, and the profession of reform, as a vague term—Sir E. Peel himself was a reformer. In a word, he wished to know how far Mr Bouverie would go on the suffrage question, and if he would support Mr Sharman's Crawford's bill in parliament, for securing the full, fair, and free representation of the people.

Mr BOUVÉRIE—With regard to what had been said about another person being in the field first, wished to know if that was to be considered conclusive of superior merits.

Mr RODGER—Not at all; I put it on the ground of dividing the liberal interest.

Mr BOUVÉRIE continued—I am for a very considerable extension of the suffrage, though if by the bill which the gentleman refers to is meant the people's charter—

Mr RODGER—Complete suffrage is what I refer to.

Mr BOUVÉRIE—Then I must say, looking to the great end of all good government, I do think it a right principle that every person who is able to judge for himself, and who pays taxes, should have the vote, but although I should be prepared to vote for a considerable extension of the franchise, I do not think the time has yet arrived for the carrying out of that principle. With regard to

the other points to which the gentleman has referred I cannot say yes or no. With regard to the ballot, I am in favour of it. As to paying members of parliament for their services, I do not think that it would be a wise or practical measure. Mr B. proceeded to express his view in regard to property qualification and equal electoral districts, which he was in favour of, and concluded.

Mr HENRY VINCENT then rose amid the applause of the meeting. He said he felt most certainly that he ought to offer some degree of apology for having ventured thus publicly to present himself to their notice, and he candidly confessed to them that had it not been for the very strong conviction that had laid hold of his mind, that in all these public elections, the friends of social progress and of true liberty ought to do all in their power to create an enlightened public opinion in favour of the incontrovertible principles of truth, leaving to the electors themselves to decide between the principles and the men who professed them, he should have shrunk from taking this position; or had he been an individual moving merely in the private circumstances of life, altogether unconnected with the political turmoil of the day, he should have been equally opposed to taking this course. But having acted for a considerable period of time with men whose names and characters might not be unknown to them—having acted with the justly venerated Joseph Sturge, whose character was known to the entire religious community for the noble and philanthropic part he had taken in the cause of negro slave emancipation, and who, when that great object was achieved, did look around upon his native country, and found that those who were created by the selfsame God, and were entitled to enjoy every social and political privilege which the state could confer upon them, were deprived of their rights and liberties; acting with him, and observing on Monday last that there was a vacancy in the representation of these burghs—he thought proper to consult with his friend, John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch, in the county of Ayr, as to whether it was proper to raise the standard of popular representation, of perfect civil liberty, and of perfect free trade, with the view of allowing the electors an opportunity of recording their independent votes in his favour. The result was, that he agreed to stand, and he begged, at the same time, to state that had there been a candidate in the field at the time, professing the same principles as himself, he was too deeply impressed with the importance of promoting union among reformers, to hazard a division by presenting himself among them. But finding that there were no other candidates in the field, and feeling that, although he was unconnected with high rank or aristocratic station in society, he yet possessed the privilege of a citizen of a professedly free country, in addition to being the humble advocate of great and exalted principles, he had taken his stand and issued an address explanatory of his principles; and as this meeting had privileged him to address them, he would take the opportunity to give them a brief outline of the opinions which he held. In accordance with this view, the first object to which he would direct their attention was the first principles of society in connexion with its government; and he might remark, by the way, that he had small faith in men who expressed opposition to the existence of monopolies, and yet favoured the continuance of the monopoly of political power by a few—a practice which, from the earliest periods of the world's history until now, had been the means of grinding down the mass into a state of political thralldom which had deteriorated their minds, their morals, and their physical powers, and in some instances had almost obliterated their humanity [cries of "Hear, hear"]. Here Mr Vincent referred to the object of society, and its regulation by government, and proceeded to say that he held that the great object of government was the good of all the people, and that there was not a member of the community who was not entitled to be cared for, and to enjoy every privilege which good government conferred upon all. The noble and learned gentleman who preceded him, had told them that he was in favour of an extension of the franchise, but he could not precisely define its limits. Now, in every country where there were enlightened views of politics, this was essentially a definable subject, and they who could not define, could scarcely be expected to have definite notions on the subject. Now, on this subject his view was this—he held that every man had a right to be represented; he maintained that every fundamental principle of Scripture presupposed the fact, which even the most aristocratic of men could not deny, that God created of one blood all nations of the earth—and which, beneath the most illiterate government that ever existed, no crotchet of mankind could ever tread into nothingness [cheers]. He was in favour of extending the suffrage to every man of twenty-one years of age, supposing him to be properly registered for the place in which he resides. He was in favour of the ballot, for protecting him in that right. He was also for short parliaments. He was also in favour of payment of members, as it seemed to be a scheme that worked very well with the government servants at the present time—all of whom were paid—from her Majesty downwards [laughter and cheers]. In regard to trade, he was for the corn law and all other restrictions being swept away; and, should he have the honour to be returned by this burgh, he should feel it his duty in parliament to oppose every monopoly. Looking to the manner in which the aristocracy monopolised the soil, and threw out all their junior branches to be supported from the public purse, he would vote for the abolition of the laws of primogeniture and entail, so that there might be a proper distribution of political power amongst all classes of his countrymen. He held, at the same time, that government had nothing to do with religion, so far as imposing religious tests was concerned; but their duty was to infuse the spirit of Christianity into their own proceedings, and in that way set a good example to the people—leaving the entire people free to worship God without persecution or prosecution [great cheering]. He was in favour of the separation of the present church and state connexion, and, as a matter of course, a reduction of the enormous taxation by which the people were grievously borne down. Mr Vincent, after a few further remarks, again reminded the meeting that he held views in accordance with the liberal interests of the county, and that, as a candidate, he had been first in the field, and concluded amidst the cheers of the assembly.

Mr ROBERTSON then addressed the meeting, professing his adherence to the principles of free trade; several details of the working of which he expatiated upon at some length. On the subject of complete suffrage, he

said—"they had heard a great deal from a previous speaker about the dignity of human character, and on these subjects about the right of every man to have a voice in making the laws. Now, for his own part, he could tell them that was not a practical measure at present [laughter]. For every man of twenty-one years of age it would not do. His life was short, and everybody's life was short, and if, instead of that, he devoted himself to something of a practical character, would he not be doing better than following dreams which never could be realised [disapprobation]? They might advocate it, he had no objection, but in the exercise of a sound and an honest judgment, he could inform them it would be long before they got it."

Mr SMITH, of Polmadie, made a few remarks on what had fallen from Mr Robertson, after which Mr RODGER proceeded to catechise Mr R. at considerable length. The result of these queries may be summed up in this. He would not extend the vote to men of twenty-one years of age—he would not say precisely whether he would do away with the connexion between church and state, although he had no objection to say that he would vote for the doing away of the present episcopal church in Ireland—although he was in favour of the legislature interfering to prevent women and children from being overworked in factories, he would not support Lord Ashley's measure for a certain number of hours per day, regulating the time of working in factories. Some discussion next took place between Messrs Bouverie and Robertson, on the subject of a correspondence that had taken place between them, as to whether Mr B. would submit his claims along with Mr R. to the Reform club of Kilmarnock, with the view of having it decided which of them should be supported by the liberal interest. In this proposal, it seems Mr Bouverie declined to acquiesce.

On the motion of Mr JOHN KERR, a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered Mr Steel for his conduct in the chair. The meeting then broke up. Mr Vincent afterwards addressed a large out-door meeting from the balcony in front of the Town hall, and completely carried the feelings of the people along with him, in his eloquent exposition of his principles as a radical reformer.

(From our own Correspondent.)

KILMARNOCK.—SATURDAY NIGHT, 11 O'CLOCK.—We have just concluded one of the best meetings ever held in this town. It was held in the George Inn hall, the principal hall in the town; and, though it was Saturday night, it was crowded to suffocation. The meeting was called this afternoon to receive Mr Vincent. It must be stated that Mr Vincent was the first candidate in the field upon the principles of complete suffrage, free trade, separation of church and state, abolition of the laws of primogeniture and entail, and a general revision and reduction of taxation. Two days after Mr Bouverie was brought forward by a small clique of men who profess to represent men who never appointed them; and no sooner did he appear than a Mr Robertson, late of the *Westminster Review*, came forward as a candidate, complaining of the way he had been treated by the "clique," who would not bring him forward because he would not pay down a certain sum of money (some say £1,200) to certain agents and others which Mr Bouverie agreed to do! So Robertson and Bouverie are snarling at each other finely—"a very pretty quarrel as it stands."

Meanwhile Bouverie has addressed the electors, and made a miserable failure. He could not define "his views on the suffrage;" as for separation of church and state, "he did not understand the question;" and he "would abolish patronage in Scotland, but not in England." At the conclusion of this meeting three cheers were given for Mr Vincent.

Mr Vincent's reception to-night was an exhilarating display of popular feeling. The meeting unanimously insisted that he should go the poll, whatever might be the result. If Mr Bouverie understood the lesson so long taught by the whigs, union amongst reformers, he would not have presented himself when a man holding free-trade principles was in the field before him. We cannot yet speculate upon the result of this singular state of things; but certain it is that the electors are gradually moving towards Mr Vincent, and the mass of the working men are intensely excited in his favour. John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch, accompanies Mr Vincent. They visit the boroughs of Renfrew, Port Glasgow, and Dumbar on Monday, and will be back here on Tuesday. The boroughs lie wide apart, and the election partakes of much of the difficulty of a county. There is to be a great meeting of the non-electors on Monday to address the electors in Mr Vincent's favour. Addresses of sympathy are arriving from Edinburgh and other places. The address from the Birmingham council, signed Joseph Sturge, has just been posted.

MEETING AT EDINBURGH.—On Tuesday evening a meeting was held in the Rev. Dr Ritchie's church, Potterrow, to hear a lecture from Mr Vincent on Complete Suffrage, its importance—means to be used for its accomplishment—and the duty of electors in relation to the question. Mr D. Campbell was called to the chair, and it was announced to the meeting that Mr Vincent could not appear, as he had gone to Kilmarnock at the suggestion of his friends, to present himself as a candidate for the seat in parliament, vacant by the death of Alexander Johnston, Esq., of Shieldhall. The meeting, which was numerously attended, approved, with only one or two dissentient voices, of the course that had been followed, and agreed to proceed to consider an address to the electors of the Kilmarnock district of burghs, urging them to consider well their duty on the present occasion, and send to parliament a man heartily disposed to put an end to class legislation, and to give every man his due influence in the body politic. The most ardent wishes for Mr Vincent's success at Kilmarnock, and for the general advance of the cause of complete suffrage, were expressed by all the speakers. The meeting broke up shortly before eleven o'clock.—*Edinburgh Chronicle*.

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

A disease, declared by medical men to be the leprosy, has made its appearance in New Brunswick. It is highly contagious, is incurable, and invariably ends in death.

The *Handelsblad* announces that a Dutch envoy is about to be sent to Japan on a diplomatic mission.

It is stated in *Herapath's Railway Magazine*, that an invention is about to be tried to make boats go on canals at some thirty miles an hour.

At a public dinner at Alnwick, the other day, after the toast—"Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal family," the band struck up the air "That's the way the money goes."

The application of a little sweet oil will allay the smart from the sting of wasps, bees, and hornets.

The average amount of promissory notes in circulation during the four weeks ending the 27th ult., was £39,585,104, namely, England £30,887,106, Ireland £5,983,371, and Scotland £2,713,627. Bullion, in the Bank of England, £15,844,000.

OFFICIAL CHANGE.—Sir Henry Hardinge goes to India as Governor-general, and Sir James Graham, who expected the appointment, goes for the present to the wall.—*Punch*.

On Tuesday, as we learn from the *Scotsman*, the town council of Edinburgh elected Dr Gregory by 20 votes to 13; Dr Fyfe being his competitor, to be professor of chemistry in the University of Edinburgh.

It is stated on good authority, that Mr Frankland Lewis is preparing, by the direction of the government, a bill for regulating Turnpike trusts in Wales, in conformity with the commissioners' report.

The *Patrie* states that M. Thiers has concluded his "History of the Empire" and is to deliver the manuscript on Tuesday to the publisher, who is to pay him 500,000 fr. for the work.

Hamburg is fast rising from the ashes of 1842. Notwithstanding the vast number of buildings that have been erected, great activity is still prevailing in various parts of the city, and houses are rearing their heads where, but a few days before, nothing was to be seen but the remnants of former habitations.

A synagogue, in a style of splendour surpassing anything hitherto attempted in England, is about to be erected in the west of the metropolis. Sir Moses Montefiore has contributed £5000 towards the building, on the understanding that the worship is to be according to the usages of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews.

An address to the committee of the British and Foreign Institute, protesting against the admission of the Russian Czar, should he visit England, or any member of his suite, is in course of signature. It describes the Autocrat as "a perjured King and a dishonoured gentleman."

GRAVE QUESTION.—Art-unions, it seems, are illegal, as coming under the denomination of lotteries. Marriage is a lottery. Are not matrimonial unions, therefore, unlawful too?—*Punch* respectfully asks Lord Brougham, and the other law lords, what they have to say to this?

THE ONLY ONE OF THE KIND.—The French papers contain an advertisement of a cross of the Legion of Honour, which was picked up on the market-place at Douai. So that, at present, there is one man at all events in France who is not decorated. We advise him, if he wishes to make a speedy fortune, to exhibit himself.—*Punch*.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—It is a common idea that the most laconic military despatch ever issued was that sent by Caesar to the Horse Guards at Rome, containing the three memorable words "*Veni, vidi, vici*," and, perhaps, until our own day, no like instance of brevity has been found. The despatch of Sir Charles Napier, after the capture of Scinde, to Lord Ellenborough, both for brevity and truth, is, however, far beyond it. The despatch consisted of one emphatic word—"Peccavi," "I have Scinde" (sinned).—*Punch*.

A REAL LUNATIC.—An American paper states that a man has been confined as a lunatic for attempting to pick a printer's pocket.

The number of vessels employed in bringing foreign corn to this country last year was 1870, of which 1220 were foreign, and only 655 British.

REASONS FOR DRINKING.—A gentleman having argued in favour of drinking, concluded with "You know drinking drives away care, and makes one forget what is disagreeable. Would you not allow a man to drink in that case?" "Yes sir," replied Johnson, "if he sat next to you."

The *Morning Post* suggests that Sir James Graham should be raised to the peerage, not as Baron Netherby, but as Baron Neither-be! The pun is poor, but it serves as well as a brighter to show the animus of the Tory journalist.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS.—The following is the annual cost of these liquors in the countries named:—France, £52,777,777; Great Britain, £39,692,487; Sweden, £13,500,000; Prussia, £9,000,000; United States, £8,062,416.

UNANSWERABLE QUERIES.—Did you ever know an omnibus that was not "going to start immediately?" Did you ever know a young lady who when asked to sing, had not "such a cold?" Did you ever see a cabman with an umbrella? Did you ever hear of a Scotchman going back to his country? Did you ever find a policeman when you wanted one? Did you ever see a German fiddler with short hair? Did you ever know any one that had read the *Metropolitan Magazine*? Did you ever see a wine-merchant drink his own wine? Did you ever go to a picnic without coming home wet through? Did you ever know a doctor attempt to cure himself?—*Punch*.

Literature.

Ancient Christianity, and the Doctrines of the Oxford Tracts for the Times. By the author of "Spiritual Despotism." Jackson and Walford. 2 vols.

(Continued from pp. 363.)

Mr Taylor considers himself placed in a remarkably favourable position for entering upon the subject of which his work treats; nor will we deny him some special advantages. We might, however, when he contends that his position between the rival parties qualifies him peculiarly to set forth the truth, remind him that the middle men have been really very seldom those who have taken comprehensive views; and that a central position, though it may guard from great errors, seldom leads to the discovery of great truth. The horizon is too contracted.

We have constantly this cramping influence in the pages before us. Mr Taylor's horizon is limited, and we must not search his book for very enlarged principles. As an instance, Mr Taylor contends strongly against the notion, that antiquity is to be abandoned altogether as a referee, whilst we attach ourselves to "the Bible only." He regards this ground of resistance as untenable and "indolent." We are old-fashioned enough to avow that we believe Christianity to be only what Christ's word declares to be such; and that in the absence of his attestation, all alleged Christianity is a worthless counterfeit. Our author lays considerable stress on the arguments, that as we prove the canonicity of scripture from antiquity, we, in a certain sense, claim deference for them. But why? A question arises as to the signature of a will. Testimony is called in from competent witnesses to prove that signature. But how, when it is satisfactorily established, does it follow that they who could recognise the signature are therefore qualified to expand, to add to, or even to interpret it? Antiquity may witness a prior fact; but no antiquity is sufficient to create one having authority in the Christian system.

Notwithstanding, however, these drawbacks, and even more, on which, did our limits allow, we might insist, we hold these volumes to be, *exceptis excipiendis*, a valuable contribution to our Christian literature. So important is the subject, that we hold it to be the duty of every teacher of others to make himself well conversant with its points. It may be that direct reference to these may not always be well timed. But it is of unspeakable importance to know the direction in which the bow may be best drawn, even though it be drawn at a venture. He who, at the reformation, was ignorant of the pretensions of popery, and he who now is ignorant of those of her almost affiliated relative, equally betrays his position. We the more urge this, because we happen to have known of some encounters with Puseyism, which betrayed such ignorance of the points in debate as to commit the reformation principle, and to afford a triumph to its foes. Though we by no means agree with Mr Taylor, in thinking that he is the only man who worships in a meeting-house worthy to wipe the dust from Benedictine editions, or competent to explore the contents of the *Bibliotheca Patrum*, yet we cheerfully avow our great obligations to him for having here made us acquainted with that early antiquity, to gain an adequate knowledge of which from original sources demands an affluence equally of time and of money. As an authority, these volumes require to be read with caution; but in the hands of those who have learned to think for themselves, they are equally invaluable and indispensable. Perhaps no stronger proof of their value can be adduced than the elaborate acrimony with which, from interested quarters, they have been condemned.

Poems, by JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL. London: C. E. Mudie, 28, Upper King street, Bloomsbury square. 1844.

THOUGH we follow with an eager eye the progress of our transatlantic neighbours, we have not hitherto regarded them as distinguished *par excellence* in the realms of imagination. The reasons are obvious. In constructing a house the erection of the solid structure must necessarily take precedence of the ornamented interior. If, as Sir W. Temple says, "None was ever a great poet who applied himself much to anything else"—or as the Adventurer observes, "Not one favourite of the muses has ever been able to build a house since the days of Amphion;" it is not surprising that our cousins of America, busy as they are in setting up a material world, should have little leisure for an ideal one. But "the good time will come." The soil once fairly turned up, genius must soon develop its self-sown seeds; and the civilisation which improves even the temperature of a country, will soon address itself to the work of acclimation. We welcome every American bud of literature, and long for the summer which is to bring out, and the autumn which is to ripen, the Homers, Virgils, Dantes, and Shaksperes of the new world. The volume lying before us introduces to us, and perhaps to our readers, a new aspirant to the

poetical crown in the person of Mr Lowell. The trump of fame has not yet sounded this gentleman's genius into our ears; but the advertisement informs us that "his writings have already obtained considerable reputation in his own country." And the surprise of the traveler who, having casually picked up a stone from his path intending to hurl it into the next brook, is withheld from his purpose by discerning it to be a jasper or an agate, was not greater than ours when we discovered the real value of this literary production. We hold the word "poet," to be one not to be profanely applied; but that Mr Lowell is a poet we are prepared to maintain, if need be, before all the gods of Parnassus. We are not indeed unmindful of the rule of criticism given in the *Vicar of Wakefield*, that the picture would have been better had the painter taken more pains. We will not, therefore, say that we approve without exceptions; that there are no false and forced rhymes; that there are no words coined beyond even the license of the Horatian limit; that there is no exuberant imagery without a clear substratum of meaning; that there is no sound emitted distinct from that of the true poetic metal, or that there is not more of the *Endymion* school than our modest partialities like to patronise; but if there be not in this volume abundant indications of the "fine frenzy" which "reaches from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven," we confess ourselves unable to distinguish between the pure water of the jewel and its mere pasty counterfeit.

Were we intent on pointing to the most favourable specimen of the author's genius, we think we should not take the opening tale for that purpose. The "Legend of Brittany" which occupies the first thirty-one pages, is a tale of woe and wonder—the woe comprising incidents of too frequent occurrence, but the wonder being alike offensive and impossible. Mr Lowell delights in depicting woman's heart—often very successfully, but sometimes in brighter colours than we hold to be altogether true. The following stanzas will enable our readers to form an estimate of the merits of the poem; it describes the meeting of Margaret, the heroine, with her lover and seducer.

"Yet Margaret's sight redeemed him for a space
From his own thralldom; man could never be
A hypocrite when first such maiden grace
Smiled in upon his heart; the agony
Of wearing all day long a lying face
Fell lightly from him, and, a moment free,
Erect with wakened faith his spirit stood
And scorned the weakness of its demon-mood.

"She turned and saw him, but she felt no dread—
Her purity, like adamant mail
Did so encircle her; and yet her head
She drooped, and made her golden hair her veil,
Through which a glow of rosiest lustre spread,
Then faded, and anon she stood all pale
As snow, o'er which a blush of northern light
Suddenly reddens, and as soon grows white."

Here is a touch of landscape painting:—

"Deep in the forest was a little dell
High overarched with the leafy sweep
Of a broad oak, through whose gnarled roots there fell
A slender rill that sung itself asleep,
Where its continuous toil had scooped a well
To please the fairy folk; breathlessly deep
The stillness was, save where the dreaming brook
From its small urn a drizzly murmur shook.

"The wooded hills sloped upward all around
With gradual rise and made an even rim,
So that it seemed a mighty casque unbound
From some huge Titan's brow to lighten him,
Ages ago, and left upon the ground,
Where the slow soil had matted it to the brim,
Till after countless centuries it grew
Into this dell, the haunt of noontide dew.

"Dim vistas, sprinkled o'er with sun-drenched green
Wound round the thickest trunks on every side,
And towards the west, in fancy might be seen
A gothic window, in its blazing pride,
Where the low sun, two arching elms between,
Lit up the leaves beyond, which, autumn-dyed
With lavish hues, would into splendour start,
Shaming the laboured panes of richest art."

The second poem "Prometheus" has much power in it; though unsatisfactorily directed, as all poems on that subject must be. Our space does not admit of an extract.

"The Fountain" is singularly fresh and beautiful.

"Into the sunshine,
Full of the light,
Leaping and flashing
From morn till night!

"Into the moonlight,
Whiter than snow;
Waving so flower-like
When the winds blow!

"Into the starlight
Rushing in spray,
Happy at midnight,
Happy by day!

"Ever in motion,
Blithesome and cheery,
Still climbing heavenward,
Never awary;—

"Glad of all weathers,
Still seeming best,
Upward or downward,
Motion thy rest;—

"Full of a nature
Nothing can tame,

Changed every moment,
Ever the same;—

"Ceaseless aspiring
Ceaseless content,
Darkness or sunshine
Thine element;—

"Glorious fountain!
Let my heart be
Fresh, changeful, constant,
Upward, like thee!"—pp. 98—100.

There is an exquisite pathos too in the following REQUIEM.

"Ay, pale and silent maiden,
Cold as thou liest there,
Thine was the sunniest nature
That ever drew the air,
The wildest and most wayward,
And yet so gently kind,
Thou seemest but to body
A breath of summer wind.

"Into the eternal shadow,
That girds our life around,
Into the infinite silence
Wherewith death's shore is bound,
Thou hast gone forth, beloved!
And I were mean to weep,
That thou hast left life's shallows
And dost possess the Deep.

"Thou liest cold and silent,
Thy heart is cold and still,
Thine eyes are shut for ever,
And death hath had his will;
He loved, and would have taken,
I loved, and would have kept;
We strove—and he was stronger,
And I have never wept.

"Let him possess the body,
Thy soul is still with me,
More sunny and more glad some
Than it was wont to be;
Thy body was a fetter
That bound me to the flesh,
Thank God that it is broken,
And now I live afresh.

"Now I can see thee clearly;
The dusky cloud of clay,
That hid thy starry spirit,
Is rent and blown away;
To earth I give thy body,
Thy spirit to the sky,
I saw its bright wings growing,
And knew that thou must fly.

"Now I can love thee truly,
For nothing comes between
The senses and the spirit,
The seen and the unseen;
Lifts the eternal shadow,
The silence bursts apart,
And the soul's boundless future
Is present in my heart."—pp. 134—136.

We had marked several other passages for extracts. But we have said enough to indicate the merits of the work, which Mr Mudie is entitled to our thanks for having republished in so beautiful a form.

The Tomb of Priesthill; or, the Martyrdom of John Brown. A Poem. By THOMAS THOMSON, Dalkeith. Edinburgh: William Oliphant and Sons, &c. pp. 31.

This sweet and simple little poem is evidently the production of a mind deeply imbued with the spirit of the authors and defenders of the solemn league and covenant. The affecting tale embodied is perhaps one of the most thrilling of those with which that eventful period of Scottish history abounds. The uniform mildness of the verse reminds us strongly of Grahame, and brings vividly before us the character of that period, when the persecuted opponents of episcopacy—

"Talked of bleeding Zion's martyred sons,
Her covenanted cause—her future bliss;
When he, the king of kings and lord of lords,
Would build her wastes, and bring his banished home;
Then pastors give according to his will,
Who would the flocks more than the fleece esteem."—p. 14.

Sacred Biography; illustrative of Man's Threefold State: the Present, Intermediate, and Future. By J. SMITH, M.A. Glasgow, George Gallie; London, John Snow. 1844. pp. 400.

These pages are occupied by biographies of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Enoch, Noah, Job, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Balaam, Deborah, Ruth, Hannah, Esther, the family of Bethany, Timothy, Onesiphorus; with three concluding lectures on the Intermediate State of the Soul, the Resurrection of the Body, and the Sameness of Character in Time and Eternity. If this volume be, as we suppose it, the production of a fresh writer, it does great credit to his intelligence, his industry, and his pulpit talents. It will greatly interest and instruct the young.

Church History: a Poem. Part I. Present Times. London: H. G. Clarke and Co., 66, Old Bailey. pp. 50.

This poet does not evince the least degree of insanity. He cannot claim fellowship with the true irritable race. "Church History," the title of his production, is a misnomer; and should any of our readers expect from it a digest, or condensed epitome, of some portions of Mosheim or Milner, or any other historian, they, like ourselves, will be strangely mistaken. They will find it to contain—a prosing preface, unique in its kind, and afterwards a grotesque attempt at satire upon the Free church of Scotland. Strange as it may appear, the author disclaims all intention of directing missiles against the non-intrusionists, and then, from beginning to end, makes them the sole object of his Quixotic attack. But let not that body be afraid. This is not the author destined to annihilate them. His pen distills no poison—his slanderous weapon is pointless.

We do not deny that the book displays some energy of expression, and is learnedly graced with a German motto from Schiller; nor do we deny that, among much rubbish, it contains some respectable stanzas; but the mind of the writer is an evident chaos of disordered

thoughts; and if, like the eagle, he sometimes attempts to soar, his flight, like that of the eagle bereft of vision, is among clouds. Witness the conclusion of an apostrophe to religion, where it is termed

"Holy boon,
Omnipotent as pure—Almighty Mind—
The born of God—Redeemer of mankind."

—Page 2, stanza 4.

Such confusion we expected, after stumbling over the first sentence of the preface. Does the sage author expect to pass off the following for verse? Shades of Pope and Byron!

"And so he paused, and so we'll shortly pause,
If but to avoid inharmonious tautology;
A speech on music too diffuse may cause
A miss to vibrate her tonic note all a-gee;
And yet a poem too concise oft draws
Contempt upon the Anacreonic prodigy.
Enough, we know the clergy's incommensurability;
And so we prophesy there are some men sure to feel it aye."—Stanza 86.

We will have done, or our readers will cry halt. Whether the author intends to wait another generation before he gives the world another part of "Church History," we cannot tell. Perhaps he is going to travel backward, like the Irishman's pigs, to deceive the road.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *Lectures delivered at Broadmead Chapel, Bristol.* By JOHN FOSTER.
2. *The North British Review.* No. 1. May.
3. *Walks about the City and Environs of Jerusalem.* By W. H. BARTLETT.
4. *Memoirs of David Nasmyth.* By JOHN CAMPBELL, D.D.

Operations are forthwith to commence for the removal of the wreck of Edgar, 74, which was blown up at Spithead in 1711.

BIRTHS.

At Kemp town, the lady of Sir WILLIAM FOLLETT, M.P., of a son.

May 11, at College place, Camden town, London, the wife of Mr R. REDPATH, minister of the gospel, of a daughter.

May 17, the wife of Mr THOMAS AVELING, independent minister, of Kingsland, of a son.

May 19, at Swanscombe, Kent, the wife of Mr W. LEASK, minister of the gospel, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

May 4, at Hackney, by Mr Brooke Aspland, THOMAS PEMBERTON, jun., Esq., of Birmingham, to LUCY, third daughter of E. JOHNSTON, Esq., of Hanger lane, Tottenham.

May 13, at Salem chapel, Bradford, by Mr J. G. Miall, the pastor, Mr JAMES DOUGLAS, draper, Westgate, in that town, son of Mr John Douglas, surgeon, Penpont, Dumfriesshire, to MARTHA, eldest daughter of Mr John Mitchell BOWLING, of the firm of Francis Mitchell and Co., manufacturers.

May 15, at the Friends' meeting-house, Wigton, Cumberland, WILSON, eldest son of Joseph ARMISTEAD, Esq., of this town, to MARY, only daughter of the late John BRAGO, Esq., of Whitehaven.

May 15, at the independent chapel, Brighouse, Mr BENJAMIN ATKINSON, druggist, to SARAH, eldest daughter of Mr John BOTTOMLEY, both of that place.

May 15, at Bond Street chapel, Birmingham, by Mr Thomas Morgan, in the presence of some hundreds of spectators, Mr JONATHAN MAKEPEACE, late student at Stepney college, to Miss KERN-HAPFUCH LAWREN, of Great Hampton street. The newly-married couple are about to embark, as baptist missionaries, to Northern India.

May 15, at Ducie chapel, York street, Manchester, by Mr T. Brierly, independent minister, Oldham, Mr FRANCIS MILNE, cotton dealer, &c., of that town, to Miss KNOWLES, daughter of the late Peter Knowles, Esq., of Massey Green, near Lymm, Cheshire.

May 15, at St Andrew's chapel, North Shields, by Mr A. Jack, Mr ROBERT FORTH, chemist and druggist, to MARY, fourth daughter of Mr OHLIVIE, manufacturing chemist, all of North Shields.

May 16, at the independent chapel, Billericay, by the pastor, Mr Edward Dewhurst, GEORGE HARVEY KING, Esq., of Great Gubbins, Laindon, to MARTHA, fifth daughter of Mr William CURTIS, of the former place.

May 17, at the independent chapel, St Nicholas, Ipswich, by the pastor, Mr John Whitby, Mr ISAAC PROST, to ELIZABETH, third daughter of Mr William SMITH, of Ufford, near Woodbridge.

May 18, at Queen Street meeting, Limehouse, by Mr E. Halliday, the pastor, Mr JOHN BELLAMY, of Grosvenor street, Commercial road, to SARAH, youngest daughter of the late Mr Philip HOWLETT, Brook street, Ratcliff.

DEATHS.

The *Mayo Constitution* has the following:—"Died on Monday the 7th instant, at Crooknolia, near Broadhaven, in Erris, GRACE DEVITT, at the extraordinary age of 122."

May 9, while staying with his brother, W. D. Crewdson, Esq., of Helme lodge, at Ullock's hotel, Bowness, aged 63 years, ISAAC CREWDSON, Esq., of Ardwick green.

May 14, at Paris, in the 85th year of his age, M. Ponde Verdun. He had been a member of the National Convention, and of the Council of Five Hundred, and Attorney-general in the Court of Cassation under the Empire. Banished by the restoration, he retired to Brussels, where he resided several years, but, thanks to the interference of his friend Andrieux, of Count Roy, and of the Duke De Cazes, he was permitted to return to France.

May 15, in the faith of Jesus, and the 37th year of his age, Mrs MARY ANNE DICKERSON, the beloved wife of Mr Philip Dickerson, pastor of the Baptist church, Little Alle street.

May 16, at Thetford, in the 75th year of his age, greatly beloved and esteemed, Mr JOHN KEMP, late of North Creake, Norfolk, and of Broomhills, Stamborough, Essex.

May 18, at 31, Edward street, Hampstead road, in the 3rd year of his age, JAMES LYON, only son of Mr W. P. Lyon, of Albany chapel, Regent's park.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, May 17.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

BRIGINSIAW, JEFFRIES, Wandsworth, Surrey, publican.

SWEENEY, CHARLES STEWART, now or late of 1, Albion place, Hyde Park square, apothecary.

BANKRUPTS.

BANKS, SARAH, Ipswich, victualer, May 23, June 28: solicitor, Mr Pownall, Ipswich.

CATTANEO, PETER and JOSEPH, Reigate, Surrey, jewelers, May 24, July 2: solicitor, Mr Birkett, Curriers' hall.

LAMB, EDWARD BUCKTON, 10, Burton crescent, St Pancras, builder, May 24, June 28: solicitor, Mr Palmer, Mitre court, Temple.

MARKS, RICHARD, Old Salmon public-house, Union street, Southwark, and of the Duke of York public-house, Liquorpond street, Bedford street, victualer, May 28, June 28: solicitors, Messrs Dyson and Flavell, 21, Bedford row.

MASTERMAN, ROBERT, late of 137, High street, but now of 3, Trinity street, Southwark, surgeon, May 23, June 28: solicitor, Mr Wright, London street, Fenchurch street.

NEWTON, CHARLES, and WORSNAM, CHARLES, Kingsland basin, Kingsland road, engineers, June 1, 28: solicitors, Messrs Elton and Son, 20, Jewry street, Aldgate.

YOUNGSHAW, THOMAS WILLIAM, now of 27, Upper Belgrave place, but late of Poplar, bitumen manufacturer, May 26,

June 30: solicitors, Messrs R. and S. Wadsworth, 11, Austin Friars, City.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

BLACK, DAVID, Dundee, merchant, May 20, June 11.
 CRAIK, DAVID, Auchnacree, cattle dealer, May 23, June 12.
 CRAIK, JAMES, Netherthorpe, Forfarshire, cattle dealer, May 23, June 12.
 CRAIK, JAMES, jun., Balgarnock, cattle dealer, May 23, June 12.
 SMITH, ANDREW, Paisley, coach builder, May 20, June 10.

DIVIDENDS.

G. Walton, Stockton-upon-Tees, Durham, wine merchant; first div. of 4s. 3d. in the pound, May 18, or any succeeding Saturday—J. Leech, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ironmonger; first div. of 3s. 4d. in the pound, May 18, or any following Saturday—T. Hobson, Carlisle, mercer; fourth div. of 3d. and three-sixteenths of a penny in the pound, May 18, or any following Saturday—T. Townshend, Birmingham, railroad contractor; further div. of 2s. 11d. and two-fifths in the pound, May 23, or any following Thursday.

Tuesday, May 21st.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

Gellymanwydd chapel, Carmarthenshire.
 BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
 READ, WILLIAM, and PAGE, ENOS, Ipswich, Suffolk, ship builders.

BANKRUPTS.

ALDEN, ISAAC, Oxford, butcher, May 28, July solicitor, Mr Ford, Bloomsbury square, London.
 BUTTRESS, WILLIAM COWLAND, Sewardstone, Essex, silk throwster, May 30, June 28: solicitor, Mr William Cox, Pinners' hall, Broad street, London.

CARLINE, THOMAS, Shrewsbury, builder, June 8, July 1: solicitors, Mr C. B. Tecc, Shrewsbury, and Mr W. H. Reece, Birmingham.

COOPER, JOHN, Stoney lane, Southwark, wheelwright, May 31, July 2: solicitors, Messrs Brady and Son, 1, Staple inn.

FLITCHER, WILLIAM, Cinderhill, Staffordshire, maltster, June 4 and 25: solicitor, Mr George Robinson, Wolverhampton.

GRAY, WILLIAM, Sheffield, wine merchant, June 1, July 5: solicitors, Mr Byalls, Sheffield; Mr Moss, 4, Cloak lane, London; Mr Blackburn, Leeds.

HALLS, LEWIS LANGDON, Taunton, Somersetshire, tea dealer, June 3, July 1: solicitors, Mr John Hull Terrell, Exeter; Messrs Hill and Mathews, 1, Bury court, St Mary Axe, London.
 LEWIS, MARY, Derby, bonnet manufacturer, June 4, June 25: solicitors, Messrs Williamson and Shaw, Derby.

LICKFOLD, WILLIAM, late of Merrow, but now of Haslemere, Surrey, victualler, May 30, June 28: solicitors, Mr William King, Godalming, and Mr E. T. Whittaker, 12, Lincoln's inn fields, London.

MORRISON, FRANK RICHARD, late of Liverpool, but now of Hammersmith, merchant, May 28, July 10: solicitors, Mr Fiddy, Temple, London, and Mr Thomas Branson, Sheffield.

PARKER, DAVID, Salford, Lancashire, hop merchant, June 3 and 26: solicitors, Messrs Johnson and Co., Temple, London, and Mr James Hilton Hulme, Manchester.

RALEY, EDWARD, Stratford-upon-Avon, grocer, June 3, July 1: solicitors, Messrs Hill and Mathews, St Mary-Axe, London; and Mr Bray, Birmingham.

SWELLING, JAMES, 63, Blackman street, Southwark, eating-house keeper, May 29, June 26: solicitor, Mr Cox, 51a, Cannon street.

WARD, JOHN, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, coach maker, June 3, July 1: solicitors, Mr H. Holland, West Bromwich; and Mr Hoogson, Birmingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

HUME, ROBERT WRIGHT, Leith, sauce manufacturer, May 30, June 17.

M'COLL, JOHN, Glasgow, provision merchant, May 27, June 17.

WILSON, ALEXANDER, Edinburgh, cattle dealer, May 25, June 17.

DIVIDENDS.

G. Hood, Burslem, earthenware manufacturer; second div. of 1d. in the pound, any Thursday—J. A. Ewan, Preston, linen draper; final div. of 2s. 0½d. in the pound, May 28, and every following Tuesday—J. Coates, Manchester, merchant; final div. of 3½d. in the pound, May 28, and every following Tuesday—Wood and Port, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, screw manufacturers; first div. of 6s. 9d. in the pound, any Tuesday—J. Davison, Martin, Yorkshire, farmer, and I. Bell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; second dividend of 1s. 8d. in the pound, May 25, or any following Saturday—J. J. Bulman, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, oil merchant; third and final div. of 2d. and 3-100th parts of a penny in the pound (in addition to 9d. in the pound previously declared), May 25, and any following Saturday.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The funds have been rather flat since our last, and there is not much business doing. Prices are nearly stationary.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
4 per cent. Reduced	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
3 per cent. Reduced	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
New 3½ per cent.	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½
Long Annuities	124	124	124	124	124	124
Bank Stock	193	191	193	193	193	193
India Stock	288	286	287	—	—	286
Exchequer Bills	72pm	70pm	69pm	72pm	72pm	72pm
India Bonds	94pm	—	94pm	—	—	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	114	Mexican	35
Belgian	103	Peruvian	29
Brazilian	89	Portuguese 5 per cent	46
Buenos Ayres	88	Ditto 3 per cent	—
Columbian	14	Russian	118
Danish	38	Spanish Active	24
Dutch 2½ per cent	61	Ditto Passive	6
Ditto 5 per cent	100	Ditto Deferred	14

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	61	London and Brighton	45
Birmingham & Gloucester	92	London & Croydon/Trunk	19
Blackwall	7	London and Greenwich	61
Bristol and Exeter	83	Ditto New	—
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Manchester & Birm.	57
Eastern Counties	12	Manchester and Leeds	106
Edinburgh and Glasgow	66	Midland Counties	89
Great North of England	98	Ditto Quarter Shares	22
Great Western	119	North Midland	90
Ditto Half	77	Ditto New	45
Ditto Fifties	23	South Eastern and Dover	38
London and Birmingham	216	South Western	66
Ditto Quarter Shares	26	Ditto New	—

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, May 20.

The arrivals were very considerable in the course of last week, and there was a good show of wheat samples from the neighbouring counties. The trade opened heavily, and only the best runs could be quoted at about last week's currency, much being left unsold at the close of the market.

In foreign, either free or bonded, very little was done, and prices were scarcely maintained, and rather less money would probably have been accepted to have made sales of any importance.

The continuance of dry weather, and the small quantity of English barley here, prevents any decline in price; but foreign is in great abundance, and to effect sales rather lower prices must be accepted.

Oats have fully maintained last week's currency, and needy buyers are obliged to give a small advance.

Beans continue to meet a good demand, and must be again quoted fully 1s. higher.

English peas of all sorts quite as dear, and very scarce; in foreign, in bond, not much doing.

Wheat, Red New	45 to 50	Malt, Ordinary	32 to 39
White	45 to 50	Pale	34 to 38
Barley	35 to 40	Peas, Hog	32 to 37
Flour, per sack	35 to 40	Maple	30 to 33
Barley	35 to 40	Boilers	32 to 34
Malt	30 to 33	Beans, Ticks	35 to 38

Beans, Pigeon	31 to 34	Wheat	55s. 1d.
Barley	27 to 29	Barley	31 5
Oats, Feed	18 to 21	Oats	20 5
Flour	22 to 23	Rye	32 6
Poland	20 to 23	Beans	31 6
Potato	20 to 23	Peas	31 7

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR MAY 17.

Wheat	55s. 1d.	Wheat	55s. 1d.
Barley	31 5	Barley	31 5
Oats	20 5	Oats	20 5
Rye	32 6	Rye	32 6
Beans	31 6	Beans	31 6
Peas	31 7	Peas	31 7

SHEEP.

The protracted drought caused more attention to be directed to the different kinds of seeds, and last Monday's currency was, in some cases, slightly exceeded.

Linseed	per qr	Clover	per cwt.
English, sowing	54s. to 60s.	English, red	52s. to 60
Baltic, ditto	—	Ditto, white	83 to 100
Ditto, crushing	40 to 43	Flemish, pale	48 to 50
Medit. & Odessa	41 to 43	Ditto, fine	56 to 110
Hempseed, small	35 to 38	New Hamb. red	45 to 50
Large	—	Ditto, fine	56 to 110
Canary, new	31 to 32	Old Hamb. red	38 to 44
Extra	54 to —	Ditto, fine	56 to 110
Caraway, old	—	French, red	40 to 52
New	57 to 60	Ditto, white	—
Rapeseed, English	—	Coriander	15 to 30
Scotch	—	Old	—
Mustard	per bushel	Rapeseed	per last
Brown, new	12 to 17	English, new	36d. to 38d.
White	8 to 11	Linseed cakes	—
Trefoil	23 to 25	English	91. 10s. to 101. 0s.
Old	12 to 16	Foreign	51. to 61. 0s.
Tares, new	4 to 5	Rapeseed cakes	41. 10s. to 51. 0s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, May 20.

There has been but little business stirring in the markets since our last. In old Irish butter there were only a few transactions; prices nominal. In new, a small quantity of Waterford now shipped sold at 80s. to 82s., and for immediate shipment was offered at 78s. to 80s.; and Limerick at 80s. on board; but did not find ready buyers. Foreign in limited request—Friesland at 78s. to 80s.; Kiel, 78s. to 80s.; Holland, 74s. to 78s.; and Leer, 70s. to 72s. per cwt. In bacon not much doing; the transactions in single sides were few, and limited in amount; prices 44s. to 47s. per cwt. No alteration in hams or tierce middles. Hams in better supply, and not quite so good in price. No change in lard.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, May 20.

The hop trade is brisk, and everything is looking up. Since this day week we may fairly quote an advance of 4s. to 6s. per cwt, making 8s. to 10s. within the last fortnight, and with a tendency still further to improve. The short stocks in hand are inadequate to meet a revived demand, and the bare mention of the day having appeared, although a usual report at this time of year, gives greater confidence to the holders, whether first or second hands. We quote as near as we can the rise up to the present time, though some will call prices higher now, a further advance being looked upon as certain. Sussex, 180s. to 188s.; Wealds, 154s. to 160s.; choice do, 140s. to 146s.; East Kent, 160s. to 220s.; Mid. Kent, 145s. to 180s.; Do. bags, 145s. to 180s.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 20.

The atmosphere being cold, and the attendance of both town and country buyers numerous, a decided improvement in the beef trade, at an advance of quite 4d. per 8lbs for the best Scots and homebreds, and 3d. for the middling and inferior descriptions; while a clearance was readily effected. During the last week about forty beasts and cows have been imported from Holland and Germany; and thirty do. from Spain. The mutton trade was very firm, at a rise on last week's quotations of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs, the best old Downs, out of wool, producing 4s. per 8lbs; Kents, and Kentish half-breeds, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. per 8lbs. The supply of calves was very moderate, while the veal trade was steady, at full price, 4s. 8d. per 8lbs, being realised for the best kinds of veal. About 200 Irish pigs were on offer, but the demand for them ruled heavy, at barely late rates. In English pigs a good business was doing, at full prices.

Beef	2s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.	Veal	3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d.
Mutton	3 10 to 4 0	Pork	3 0 to 4 0
Lamb	4 10 to 5 0		

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts	Sheep	Calves	Pigs
Friday 712	8,500	260	430
Monday 2,701	39,500	190	370

NEWCASTLE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, May 20.

Inferior Beef 3s. 2d. to 2s. 4d.	Inf. Mutton	2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.
Middling do 2 6 to 2 8	Mid. ditto	2 8 to 3 0
Prime large 2 10 to 3 0	Prime ditto	3 2 to 3 6
Prime small 2 2 to 3 4	Veal	3 4 to 4 4
Large Pork 2 6 to 3 6	Small Pork	3 6 to 4 2
Lambs, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 10d.		

COTTON.

The tone of the market has undergone a complete change since the arrival of the steam ship Acadia. The advices which she brought show the receipts of cotton at the ports of the United States to be much larger than was previously anticipated, and the consequence has been a sudden diminution in the demand, and fall of prices. American descriptions have receded 4d. per lb, in some instances nearly 1d.; and Brazils and Surats 4d. to 1d. per lb. The ordinary and middling qualities are most affected. There is an abundant supply at the reduced rates, but the trade purchase sparingly, and there is little speculative inquiry. The market, on the whole, closes very languidly, with a tendency to droop still farther. Speculators have taken 3,500 bales, and the entire sales amount to 30,000 bales.

WOOL.

The manufacturers, who had been holding off from buying for some time, have now considerably reduced their stocks, and are beginning to come into the market again as purchasers, though the prices they offer are below the rates at which supplies can be obtained from the farmers.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, May 18.—At per load of 36 trusses.	
Coarse Meadow	55s. to 65s.
New Clover Hay	65s. to 105s.
Old ditto	—
Useful OM ditto	63 to 68
Oat Straw	26 to 28
Wheat Straw	26 to 30

COAL EXCHANGE, May 20.

Stewart's, 22s.; Hetton's, 22s.; Braddyl's Hetton's, 22s. Ships arrived this week, 96.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, MAY 21.

TEA.—Of Pouchong about 1,300 pkgs were sold 4d. to 4d. per lb. above former rates. Congou was all taken in at 1s. 1d., and scented at 2s., being rather above market rates; Pekoe sold at 2s. 0½d. to 2s. 0½d. for but mid ra strong. Of green tea a part sold at 2d. per lb. above those of the last auctions; Gunpowder, middling rather fresh and rather strong, 3s. 7d.

COFFEE.—1,000 bags Ceylon offered in auction were partly sold at a decline of 1s. per cwt. Real good ordinary selling at 52s. to 53s. A small parcel of middling Berberice was brought in at 70s. per cwt.

COCCA.—100 bags Trinidad offered in auction were bought in at 44s. to 44s. 6d. per cwt.

BICE.—3,700 bags Bengal were sold in auction at full rates; 300 tierces Carolina, middling to good quality, fetched 13s. 6d. to 15s. per cwt, being rather lower.

SUGAR.—150 hhds Barbadoes, the first brought forward this season, were sold by public auction, good to fine bright yellow fetched 60s. to 64s., low to middling 61s. to 62s. 6d. per cwt. The quality was good, and the prices obtained were rather higher than the valuations. Refined goods continue to fall, standard lumps selling at 77s. 6d. and brown lumps at 76s. 6d. per cwt.

Advertisements.

On Saturday will be published, price 6d.,

THOUGHTS on SLAVERY and CHEAP SUGAR: with a Letter to the Members of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society. By JAMES EWING BIRCH, Editor of the Philanthropist.

ATLANT and JONES, Paternoster row.

DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL.

AT a MEETING of the COMMITTEE of the BAPTIST UNION, held at the BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE, Moorgate street, May 18, 1844.

JAMES LOW, Esq., Treasurer, in the Chair.
 The Dissenters' Chapels Bill, now before the House of Commons, having been taken into consideration,

It was resolved—
 1. That, in the opinion of this Committee, the Dissenters' Chapels Bill is open to serious objection, as intended to protect the wrongful holders of trust property from being proceeded against in due course of law.

2. That, in the opinion of this Committee, it is one of the plainest dictates of justice and common sense, that trust property should be used in accordance with the intention of the donor, by what means soever that intention can be ascertained.

3. That, in the judgment of this Committee, the Bill, while it introduces a new and dangerous principle of legislation, the ultimate application of which no one can foresee, will not effectuate, what is its professed object, the termination of litigation among Dissenters.

4. That, for these reasons, a petition on behalf of this Committee be presented to the House of Commons, against the further progress of the Bill.

(Signed) JAMES LOW, Chairman.

BAPTIST CHAPEL, MILLBAY, FOLKESTONE, KENT.

THIS Place of Worship was erected in 1729, on a piece of ground kindly given for that purpose by Mr J. Stace, whose parlour had often been previously converted into a temporary sanctuary. Its dimensions are small, although it has undergone one enlargement.

The preaching of the gospel within its walls, however, has been graciously blessed to the increase of the church; seven of whose members have been sent into the ministry; while others have devoted themselves to the labours of the Sunday School, in which upwards of 1300 children have come under their care in the course of years.

The insecure state of the building has at length rendered it necessary to agitate the question, "Shall it be subjected to expensive repairs, or be replaced by a new one?" The growing importance of the town, as a place of resort for summer visitors, and a point of constant and increasing communication with the continent, combines with considerations of economy to determine in favour of the latter alternative. The church, however, are unwilling to commence a new erection, until they have realised at least one-half of the sum total they may need, and which will probably be from £2000 to £1000. Towards this they have raised upwards of £250 among themselves, and in the adjacent towns. They have received promises of assistance to the amount of £100 more, to be redeemed as soon as the work is actually begun. They appeal, therefore, to Christian friends in different parts of the country, and especially to those in the Metropolis who may be likely to avail themselves of the advantages of the locality as a place of resort; earnestly and affectionately interesting their prompt and generous co-operation, to enable them without delay to "arise and build."

(Signed) DAN. PERKINS, Minister.

May, 1844.
 W. F. STACE, Deacon.
 P.S. The following expresses the sanction given to the undertaking by the churches and ministers of the neighbourhood:—
 "We, the undersigned ministers of the East Kent Baptist Association, being fully convinced that the place of worship which has been long occupied by our esteemed friends at Folkestone is extremely inconvenient, rejoice to hear that an effort is being made to provide for them a more suitable building. We shall cheerfully aid them in so doing, and hereby recommend the case most cordially to the benevolent consideration of the Christian public."

THOS CRAMP, St Peter's. THOS SCOTT, Brabourne.
 J. M. CRAMP, do. THOS DAVIS, Ashford.
 E. DAVIS, Deal. J. M. DANIELL, Ramsgate.
 D. PLEDGER, Margate. W. COPLEY, Eythorne.
 April 23, 1844.

TEAS AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

Good sound Tea	2s. 8d.
Strong Congou, 3s. 0d. to	3 8
Fine do, Pekoe kind	3 8
Fine Pekoe Souchong	4 0
Very Fine do	4 4
Finest Lapsang do, 4s. 8d. to	5 0
Good Green Tea, 3s. 4d. to	3 8
Hyson kind	4 0
Fine Hyson	4 4
Finest do	6 0
Fine Young Hyson	5 0
Finest do	5 4
Gunpowder, 4s. 8d. and 5s. 4d. to	7 0

MANSELL and Co., 2, BUCKLESBURY, CHEAPSIDE.
 Six pounds of the above forwarded free to all parts of England and Wales.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or Pearl Dentifrice;

Especially patronised by her Majesty, H.R.H. Prince Albert, the Royal Family, and the Several Courts of Europe. A Fragrant White Powder, prepared from Oriental Herbs of inestimable value, for strengthening, preserving, and cleansing the Teeth. It eradicates the factitious formation of tartar, and by the removal of that extraneous substance lends a salutary growth and freshness to the gums. It removes from the surface of the teeth frequent spots of incipient decay, polishes and preserves the Enamel, substituting for discolour and the aspect of impurity, the most pure and pearl-like whiteness; while, from its salubrious and disinfecting qualities, it gives sweetness and perfume to the breath, bestowing at once cleanliness, and the appearance and reality of health. Price 2s. 9d. per box, duty included.

CAUTION.—To protect the Public from Fraud, the Hon. Commissioners of her Majesty's Stamps have authorised the Proprietor's signature to be engraved on the Government Stamp, thus—"A. ROWLAND & SON, 20, Hatton Garden," which is affixed to each Box. Ask for ROWLAND'S ODONTO. Sold by them and by Perfumers and Chemists. * * * All others are Spurious Imitations.

NECESSARY PRECAUTION.—CONSUMERS OF BRANDY.

RESPECTFULLY informed that J. T. BETTS, jun., and CO. will not be responsible for any Bottled Brandy that is not protected against fraudulent substitution by the Patent Metallic Capsules, embossed with the words "Betts's Patent Brandy, 7, Smithfield bars." Sold by the most respectable Wine and Spirit Merchants, in Town and Country, at 3s. 6d. per bottle, the bottle included.

Now ready, price Sixpence, second edition of
THE DEBATE on the DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL, in the House of Lords, May 3rd, 1844.
 From the Notes of the Short-hand Writer.

Also,
The SPEECHES of the LORD CHANCELLOR and LORD COTTENHAM. Price 1d. each, will go by post for One Penny.

JOHN CHAPMAN, Newgate street.

DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL.

WE, the undersigned DEPUTIES of PROTESTANT DISSIDENT CONGREGATIONS of the THREE DENOMINATIONS in and near London, appointed to protect their Civil Rights, hereby enter our Protest against a Resolution passed at a General Meeting of this Body, held by adjournment on Thursday, 9th May, 1844 (whereby, after debate and division, it was determined to continue the opposition of this Deputation to the passing of the above Bill into a law), for the following Reasons:—

First.—Because this Body is united solely for the maintenance and advancement of the civil rights of Protestant Dissenters, and therefore any proceedings adverse and hostile to one of the three parties, whose mutual interests this Deputation is united to promote, is unconstitutional; and it is peculiarly improper and indecorous to employ the funds of this Body in originating and sustaining among the English Dissenters an opposition to the measure now before parliament—a purpose manifestly inconsistent with those for which the funds were created.

Second.—Because the disunion among dissenters, exhibited in such Resolution, and in the adverse proceedings thereby recommended, is calculated to defeat and obstruct the common objects for which this body is constituted, and to injure the cause of religious liberty.

Third.—Because although the undersigned differ in theological opinion from each other, yet inasmuch as the present holders of the property affected by this Bill are the direct representatives of its founders, and such property has been continuously handed down from one generation to another, and has, in the absence of any express doctrinal trust, for a long period of time been used for the religious purposes to which it is now devoted, it would, in our opinion and judgment, be a grievous injury and moral injustice to sacrifice the personal rights and feelings of living men to the supposed peculiar doctrines of their remote ancestors, and still more to the rigid exigencies of a technical rule of law.

THOMAS BOX, and for fourth and fifth reasons subjoined.

EBENEZER CLARKE, for first, second, and also the third modified, and sixth subjoined.

BENJAMIN COOPER, for second reason.

JOHN COOPER.

JAMES COPPOCK.

JOHN EVANS, M.A.

NATHANIEL GILL.

EDWIN LANKESTER, M.D., and for seventh reason subjoined.

GEORGE EAGLES MARSDEN.

EDWARD MIALL, for second and third reasons.

STEPHEN OLDING, for eighth reason subjoined.

JOHN PRATT.

THOMAS PRICE, D.D., for second and third, and ninth reason subjoined.

THOMAS RITCHIE.

WILLIAM ROUSE.

ISAAC LEWELL, for first and second reasons.

P. A. TAYLOR.

D. W. WISE, for first reason.

Fourth.—Because there appears every reason to believe that in the cases which the pending bill deals with, the parties by whom the chapels were built and endowed, desired that the trustees they appointed, and such as should from time to time, in the natural and ordinary course of events, succeed them in the trusts, should be always at full liberty to use the chapels and endowments in support of such doctrines as the trustees—influenced as they might and would generally be by the respective congregations—might in their discretion and judgment direct and appoint.

Fifth.—And because, as the parties in possession of the properties in question were for a great length of time, and until very lately, suffering under very grievous legal oppressions and disabilities—amounting to most execrable persecution—on account of their holding and promulgating peculiar opinions and doctrines as to religion—it seems to be very especially incumbent now on all persons holding opposite opinions, and advocating contrary doctrines, to exercise the utmost liberality on all questions akin to the one now before parliament.—(A trinitarian deputy.)

Third, modified.—Because it would, in our opinion and judgment, be a grievous injury and moral injustice to sacrifice the personal rights and feelings of living men to the supposed peculiar doctrines of their remote ancestors, and still more, to the rigid exigencies of a technical rule of a law.

Sixth.—Because it is contrary to the spirit and letter of Christianity for "brother to go to law with brother, and that before the unbelieving world." The result, if obtained agreeably to the wishes of the party called orthodox, would prove injurious to the cause of dissent, subversive of Christian charity, and bring inevitable disgrace upon the cause we profess to espouse, without any redeeming or qualifying effects.

Seventh.—Because opposition to this bill involves the principle that the civil magistrate has the power to determine what are the religious opinions of an individual in opposition to the opinions of a particular church or churches, which, according to the principles of English Independents, is the only ultimate appeal in cases of religious difference.

Eighth.—Because it appears to be a case of justice between man and man, and should not be connected with our different doctrinal views.

Ninth.—Because the insertion of any doctrinal test in a chapel trust deed, is an infringement of the rights of private judgment, an unauthorized restraint on the right of the church to form its own religious opinions, and a virtual transference from the church to the state of the oversight and preservation of religious truth.

THE ROMFORD CHURCH-RATE CASE.

STATEMENT of EXPENSES incurred by
PIGGOTT, in his Defence in the Ecclesiastical Suit, Bear-
 black and Newman v. Piggott.

IN THE ARCHES COURT.

Advocate	£0 17 0
Copy of the Evidence	1 10 0
Fee to the Registrar	1 8 2
Copy of the Process	5 18 10
Copy of Churchwardens' Accounts	1 1 0
Expenses of Fifty Journeys to and from London, say the low sum of 8s. each	19 10 0
	23 5 0

IN THE PRISTY COUNCIL.

Fees for sending up Petition	0 14 6
Do for Inhibition, Mention, and Citation	6 0 6
Do to Officer for serving	1 0 0
Do for examining and taking extracts from Process, having paid £3 18s. 10d. for that Process	2 6 0
Printing for the Judicial Committee, about	90 0 0
Expenses in making out and copying the necessary papers, and obtaining advice thereon, correcting copies for the press, and proof sheets, the exact sum not yet ascertained, say	30 0 0
	60 1 0
	23 5 0

Total..... 83 6 0

Subscriptions received by Mr J. M. Webb, Blackfriars road; Mr Aspley Pellatt, Holland street; and at the Nonconformist Office.

Just published, price 6d.,
THE DISCOURSE on CHRISTIAN BAPTISM, by Mr THOMAS STRATTEN, of Hull, examined.
 By JOHN CRAPE.

Also, price 2d.,
The SENTIMENTS of Mr JOHN WESLEY on the SCRIPTURAL MODE of BAPTISM, examined with regard to their Consistency.
 London: HOULSTON and STONEMAN, 65, Paternoster row.

Just published, 12mo, price 6d., or 5s. 6d. per dozen,
THE PROTESTANT DISSENTERS' CATECHISM: containing—I. A Brief History of the Nonconformists; II. The Reasons of the Dissent from the National Church. By the late Rev. SAMUEL PALMER, of Hackney. The Twenty-third Edition. With a Preface, by the Rev. JOHN FRY SMITH, D.D., F.R.S., &c.
 London: JACKSON and WALFORD, 18, St Paul's church-yard; and to be had of all Booksellers.

Just published, price 3d.,
SCHEME of a CONFESSION of FAITH and CHURCH GOVERNMENT, adopted by a Reforming Protestant Congregation at Girvan, and addressed by them to their Brethren in the Church and in the World.
 Glasgow: JOHN MILLER, 85, Ingram street. Edinburgh: WILLIAM RITCHIE, jun., 9, St Andrew square. Dundee: ROBERT WALKER, jun. Paisley: ALEXANDER GARDNER. Girvan: WILLIAM GOWDIE.

JUVENILE MISSIONARY MAGAZINE.

THE Directors of the London Missionary Society have long contemplated the desirableness of publishing some small periodical on Missionary subjects, adapted to the youthful portion of their friends. The late efforts of the young, in reference to the new missionary ship, have led the Directors to resolve on the immediate adoption of measures to provide such a periodical. It is not their wish to supersede any others already before the public, but to add to their number, and aid their circulation and usefulness.

The First Number of a Magazine under the above title will appear

ON THE FIRST OF JUNE NEXT.

It will contain 24 pages, a wood-cut frontispiece, and an embellished wrapper; and the price will be One Halfpenny per number. The wholesale price, to the Trade and Auxiliaries, will be 3s. 6d. per 100.

Orders are requested to be sent to Mr SNOW, Publisher, 35, Paternoster row, to whom all remittances are to be made. Communications to the Editor are to be addressed to the Mission House, Blomfield street, Finsbury.

Blomfield street,
 6th May, 1844.

ARTHUR TIDMAN,
 JOS. JOHN FREEMAN,
 JOHN ARUNDEL.

SCOTTISH BOARD FOR BIBLE CIRCULATION.

LIST of BIBLES and TESTAMENTS sold by
 G. and J. DYER, 24, Paternoster row, London, who are appointed Sole Agents for England.

No Orders from this List can be attended to unless accompanied by an Order for Payment in London.

POCKET BIBLE, PEARL, 24MO.	s. d.
Plain sheep	0 10
Coloured sheep	0 11
Embossed roan, gilt edges	1 0
Morocco, tooled and gilt edges	2 0
Do, do, elegant	2 6

An edition of the above Pocket Bible can be had, containing five splendidly engraved Maps, illustrating the Geography of the Bible, &c., at the additional cost of 4d. each copy.

SCHOOL BIBLE, 12MO.	s. d.
Plain sheep	1 2
Coloured sheep	1 4

These are in the press, and will be ready in the course of the present month.

SCHOOL BIBLE, 12MO, WITH MARGINAL READINGS.	s. d.
Plain sheep	1 4
Coloured sheep	1 6

MINION BIBLE, 24MO.	s. d.
Embossed roan, gilt edges	3 3

CROWN 8VO BIBLE, WITH REFERENCES.	s. d.
Embossed roan, gilt edges	5 0
Morocco, gilt edges	5 6

ROYAL 4TO FAMILY BIBLE.
 With all Brown's Marginal References, and very valuable Notes by the Messrs Paterson, his Grandsons.

Calif. plain	11 0
Coloured calf, marbled edges	13 0
Morocco, gilt edges	17 0
Do, do, elegant	22 0

SMALL PICA BIBLE, 8VO. (For the Aged.)	s. d.
Sheep	4 0
Coloured sheep, marbled edges	4 6
Coloured calf, marbled edges	5 0
Morocco, gilt edges	7 0

SCHOOL TESTAMENT, 12MO.	s. d.
Sheep	0 7
Coloured sheep, lettered	0 9

SCHOOL TESTAMENT, 24MO, LARGE TYPE. (A very useful Book.)	s. d.
Sheep	0 6

POCKET TESTAMENT.	s. d.
Embossed roan, marbled edges	0 4
Embossed roan, gilt edges	0 5
Morocco, tooled and gilt edges	1 0
Do, do, elegant	1 2

DIAMOND, 48MO, TESTAMENT, LONG LINES.	s. d.
Embossed roan, gilt edges	0 6
Morocco, gilt edges	1 0
Do, do, elegant	1 2

These are in the press, and will be ready in the course of the present month.

TESTAMENT, 8VO, LARGE TYPE. (Very beautiful.)	s. d.
Plain sheep	2 6
Coloured sheep, marbled edges	3 0
Coloured calf, marbled edges	4 0

The PORTABLE COMMENTARY, foolscap 8vo, with most approved Marginal References and Explanatory Notes, &c. Illustrated with Nine coloured Maps.

Roan embossed, gilt edges	7 6
Turkey morocco, gilt edges	9 6

N.B. The Patriot "strongly recommends the Portable Commentary, as well for its surpassing beauty as for its intrinsic value."

The ANALYTICAL BIBLE, foolscap 8vo, with Fifty Thousand Marginal References, and an Historical Analysis appended to each Book.

Roan embossed, gilt edges	5 8
Turkey morocco, gilt edges	7 0

Ministers, Superintendents of Sunday Schools, and others, purchasing Five Pounds' worth and upwards at one time, will be allowed a discount of Five per cent.

G. and J. D. have also a quantity of English Bibles and Testaments in various bindings, at very reduced rates.

Just published, 18mo, cloth lettered, price 2s. 6d.,

A VISIT to my FATHER LAND: being Notes of a Journey to Syria and Palestine in 1843. By RIDLEY H. HERSHELL, Author of "A Brief Sketch of the Jews."

London: J. UNWIN, 31, Bucklersbury.
 KENNEDY, Edinburgh; and MACLEHOSE, Glasgow.

Medium 8vo, in arabesque binding, price 10s. 6d.
WALKS about the CITY and ENVIRONS of JERUSALEM. By W. H. BARTLETT. Illustrated by Nine Engravings on Steel, by Cousen, Bentley, and Brandard; a Map; and nearly Forty superior Wood Cuts.
 The object of this work is to give a correct idea of the present state of this memorable city, from personal observation. The "Walks" embrace the principal objects of interest, many of which have not been drawn or described in any previous publication.
 London: GEORGE VIRTUE, 26, Ivy lane; and sold by all Booksellers.

LONDON, EDINBURGH, AND DUBLIN
LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.
 No 3, Charlotte row, Mansion house; and 55, Chancery lane.

TRUSTEES.
 K. Kingsford, Esq. | B. Hall, Esq. | J. Bidden, Esq.

DIRECTORS.
 Kennett Kingsford, Esq., Chairman.

Benjamin Hall, Esq., Deputy-chairman.

Alexander Anderson, Esq. | James Hartley, Esq.

John Atkins, Esq. | John McGuffie, Esq.

James Bidden, Esq. | John Maclean Lee, Esq.

Captain F. Brandreth | J. Marmaduke Rosseter, Esq.

AUDITORS.
 H. H. Canaan, Esq. | Robert E. Alison, Esq.

Medical Adviser—Marshall Hall, M.D., F.R.S.L. and E.

Secretary—John Emerson, Esq.

Solicitors—Messrs Palmer, France, and Palmer.

LIFE ASSURANCE enables a person, by small annual or half-yearly payments, to secure a comparatively large sum of money to be paid at his death; and there is no other way by which yearly savings can be made to produce these effects with complete certainty.

By means of Life Assurance a Father and a Husband can, with little sacrifice, provide for his Children and Widow; and there is no person who has the means of supporting a family who cannot, out of his savings, or by the exertion of proper economy, with the aid of Life Assurance secure them against destitution at his death. A person of the age of thirty may, by the half-yearly payment of £1 2s. 10d., secure £100, which will be paid at his death to any person he may appoint. A person of the age of fifty must pay £3 2s. 4d. half-yearly, the annual payment varying with the age.

ANNUITIES TO WIDOWS may also be secured by Life Assurance. If the age of the Husband be thirty, and that of the wife twenty-five, the sum of £10 a year, payable to the Widow during her life, to commence at the death of her Husband, may be secured by the Husband paying £3 2s. 8d. annually during his life. A smaller or larger annuity may be obtained by smaller or larger annual payments.

No man, therefore, can be considered excusable who has the means, and a trifling yearly sum is required, who does not secure his Widow and Children against dependence and poverty.

THIS IS THE ONLY COMPANY who are bound by their Deed of Constitution not to dispute any policy, unless they can prove that it was obtained by fraudulent misrepresentations; and numerous cases have shown how worthless may be a Policy obtained from the most influential office which is unrestrained by this equitable principle, which removes all anxiety as to future dispute or litigation, and enhances immeasurably the value of the Policies as documents of security.

THIS IS THE ONLY COMPANY who give to the assured on the mutual principle the whole of the mutual accumulations, and also guarantee the sums assured.

THIS IS THE ONLY COMPANY who bind themselves to pay the sums in the policies, although the debts for which they were effected shall have been liquidated before the claims arise.

THIS IS ALMOST THE ONLY COMPANY who grant in favour of creditors whole-world Policies, whereby the debt is secured, although the debtor should go beyond the limits of Europe.

The Premiums, calculated according to the Carlisle tables, are lower than usual upon young lives, where participation in the profits is not required; and for short insurances, which, at the option of the assured, may be continued for life, the rates are as low as a due regard to complete security will permit.

Triennial ascending scale to assure £100.

Age.	First 3 years.	Second 3 years.	Third 3 years.	Fourth 3 years.	Remainder of Life.
25	£1 2 7	£1 9 9	£1 16 11	£2 4 1	£2 11 3
35	1 9 9	1 19 6	2 9 3	2 19 0	3 8 9
45	2 1 0	2 14 10	3 8 8	4 2 6	4 16 4
55	3 11 1	4 10 9	5 10 5	6 10 1	7 9 9
60	4 8 11	5 17 4	7 5 9	8 14 2	10 2 6

BY THE HALF PREMIUM PLAN only one half of the first seven years' premium is required, the other half being payable at the convenience of the assured; thus allowing a policy to be continued for seven years at one half of the usual rate, or to be dropped at one half of the usual sacrifice; and entitling the assured, seven years hence, when loss of health may prevent him from effecting a new assurance, to continue a policy at a rate of premium applicable to an age seven years younger.

This plan of Assurance, as practised by this Company, has this further advantage, that it enables persons to retain to their own use the one-half of the premiums for the first seven years at £5 per cent. interest. Thus, suppose the ordinary premium for an assurance of £500 to be £10, the first payment by the half-premium plan will be five guineas, being the one-half of the £10, and interest for the retained half; and if death should occur in the first year, the sum of £500 would be paid less the £5 retained. The assured may thus have the use for the first year of £5; for the second, of £10; and so on till the end of the seventh year, when the retained sums, amounting to £55, may either be repaid, or retained at £5 per cent. interest until death when the £55 would be subtracted from the £500 then payable by the Company.

Every information may be obtained by personal or written application to the Agents of the Company, or to the Manager in London.

ALEX. ROBERTSON, Manager.

GREAT BRITAIN MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 14, Waterloo place, London.

MEMBERS.
 The Chisholm, Chairman; W. Morley, Esq., Dep.-chairman.

John Brightman, Esq. | John Inglis Jerden, Esq.

Francis Brodigan, Esq. | James John Kinloch, Esq.

James William Dodson, Esq. | Henry Lawson, Esq.

Jonathan Duncan Dew, Esq. | Robert Power, Esq.

Alexander Robert Irvine, Esq. | Rev. F. W. J. Vickery, A.M.

AUDITORS.
 C. B. Rule, Esq.—T. C. Simmons, Esq.—George Thomas, Esq.

PHYSICIAN—J. Chandless, M.D., 16, Wimpole street.

SOLICITOR—Walker Pridmore, Esq., Goldsmiths' hall.

BANKERS—Union Bank of London.

ADVANTAGES OF THIS INSTITUTION.

The whole of the Profits divided ANNUALLY among the Holders of Policies on which Five Annual Premiums shall have been paid. Credit allowed for the first five annual premiums, on satisfactory security being given for the payment of the same at the expiration of five years. Credit given for half the amount of the first five annual premiums, without security. Transfers of policies effected and registered (without charge) at the office. Claims on policies not subject to be litigated or disputed, except with the sanction, in each case, of a General Meeting of the Assured, to be specially convened on the occasion. Holders of policies of £1000 entitled (after payment of five annual premiums) to attend and vote at all General Meetings of the Assured, who will have the superintendence and control of the funds and affairs of the Society. Full particulars are detailed in the Prospectus, which, with every requisite information, may be obtained by application to

A. R. IRVINE, Managing Director.

Printed and published at the Office, No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street, in the parish of St Dunstons in the West, in the city of London, by JOHN HENRY DAVIS, of No. 76, York road, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, on WEDNESDAY 22nd of MAY, 1844.